

Britain on the brink of slide into recession

United Kingdom economic indicators are pointing to a severe recession. Industrialists say gave warning that trading was becoming difficult, and government figures that stocks were being heavily run down, strength of the pound, record post-war employment and a cut in industrial output all companies' difficulties.

Major companies face trading difficulties

Online Atkinson and Allen evidence that Britain into what is expected severe recession came Government and from yesterday.

Major companies, gave of tougher times ahead its, and ICI, Britain's industrial concern, said it was bound to get difficult as 1980 wears on. same time the Government's figures showing industry heavily cut its the first quarter of this d reduced its investi

steel strike was to blame of the de-stocking and investment. However, er taking the strike's no account, the figures indicate that industry id started to draw in manufacturers' stocks.

In spite of companies' attempts to run down their stock levels at the beginning of this year, the ratio of stocks to output emerged high. This is because the drop in manufacturing output more than offset the de-stocking.

A few moments later Mrs Thatcher was also emphasising that the only sound policy, which in some ways could be called a pay policy, was to close the gap between increased pay and efficiency. It might be necessary, she said, for some firms to accept a rate of pay increase below the inflation level.

The rate of increase to which a worker was entitled was that which was earned, the Prime Minister said; otherwise the extra went on price increases.

Describing the recent speech of Mr Frank Chapple, Electronic, Telecommunication and

Plumbing Union, as "extremely interesting", Mrs Thatcher added that selfless pay claims meant that other people suffered from increased prices.

An economic report published yesterday predicted that Britain would have the lowest growth rate of the major European countries during the first half of the 1980s, and that unemployment would average more than 2,000,000 over the next five years.

This depressing view came from The Economic Intelligence Unit, which uses the Treasury's model for its forecasts of the United Kingdom.

ICI reported first quarter pre-tax profits of £152m, an improvement of £54m on the same period last year when the group was hit by the haulage strike. But the group unsevered the equity market by saying that, since the end of the period, trading conditions had become "much more difficult" in important areas like fibres, plastics and petrochemicals and that profit margins were narrowing.

Much of the other bad news yesterday was concentrated in the engineering sector. GKN said first half profits would be "substantially short" of the corresponding period last year. Financial Editor, page 19

Tables, page 21

Government considers abolition of Clegg commission in tough new pay policy

1 Routledge
Editor
Government is under-consideration of the Clegg Commission as part of its new line on public sector bargaining. Senior civil servants expect that the wage board, which the have used as a mechanism to squeeze extra pay rises from Government departments, would up.

important new references are made to the commission in the past five months. Professor Hugh Clegg, the man due to retire in September, is argued that a value keeping on a that could undermine the public sector incomes

ing out of the cost is being discussed at a

Wage rises 'must be kept below inflation'

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, joined forces in the Commons yesterday to reaffirm their determination that pay increases, particularly in the public sector, should remain below the level of inflation.

The message was that the Government had no intention of introducing a formal incomes policy and that one of the best ways of reducing the retail price index, at present 21.9 per cent, was to prevent wages rising higher than prices.

Sir Geoffrey said that over the past three years pay had risen 12 per cent more than prices while output had grown by only 5 per cent. It was crucial to reduce the cash expansion of public expenditure. One contributory factor to the substantial cost of the health service was the increase in salaries.

He reminded MPs that Britain was almost the only industrial country which had not accepted a rate of pay increase several percentage points below price increases.

To Liberal pleas for the introduction of an incomes policy, the Chancellor said that that suggestion would find only a modest degree of support from all sides of the Commons.

He added that as an essential part of reducing inflation, the public sector must secure progressively lower rates of pay.

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Manpower Economics which supplies the Civil Service experts to Professor Clegg's team. The Government's misgivings are reflected rather more forcibly in the agenda for the National Union of Public Employees next week call for a boycott of the body whose wage recommendations are dismissed as "humiliating and insulting".

A firm decision on abolition has not yet been taken, but the responsible minister, Mr James Prior, Employment Secretary, is thought to share the misgivings of Cabinet hardliners about the potential mischief that an "escape route" out of the pay policy could do.

Even if the commission is disbanded, it is argued that a comparison capability will still exist either in the Department of Employment or in the Office of

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Photograph by Harry Keir

Somewhere in London: Mr Ilya Dzhirkvelov, former KGB officer and Tass correspondent, who defected to Britain last month, seen telling *The Times* of his experiences.

He said that all Soviet correspondents abroad were to some extent also agents of the KGB. Their reports reaching the Soviet press were tendentious and selective, while those to the authorities tended to correspond more closely to reality. The authorities

view that Sudan was ripe for a pro-Soviet coup, Report, page 8

Mrs Thatcher wants to streamline Whitehall

By Peter Hennessy

The Prime Minister and senior ministers are working on a plan to refashion Whitehall into a smaller, sharper administrative machine capable of implementing the less interventionist style of government Mrs Margaret Thatcher has adopted.

Stimulated by a paper entitled *The Conventions of Government* prepared by Sir Derek Roy, joint managing director of Marks and Spencer and her adviser on the elimination of government waste, the Prime Minister's plan has developed

into a review of the workings of the Whitehall hierarchy by younger officials of proven merit, which could lead to men and women reaching permanent secretary rank in their late thirties instead of their early fifties.

Secondly, a review is under way of the functions and performance of Whitehall's three central departments, the Treasury, the Cabinet Office and, particularly, the Civil Service Department, about whose capacities there has been most complaint from Whitehall and in Parliament over the past four years.

Mrs Thatcher is not committed to the survival of the Civil Service Department in its present form. It seemed at one time that she would wait until the retirement of Sir Ian Bancroft, Head of the Home Civil Service, at the end of 1982 before either merging it with the Treasury or redesigning its personnel and manpower functions.

Her keenness to fulfil her commitment to reduce Whitehall numbers by 102,000 during her first term of office seems now to be leading the Prime Minister towards speedier action.

Civil Service Department officials told the Commons Select Committee on the Treasury and Civil Service on Monday that detailed plans for implementing

the latest 75,000 tranches of manpower cuts have yet to be worked out.

In her statement on the cuts last week, the Prime Minister gave a clear hint about the twin thrust of the review kindled by Sir Derek's paper. She said: "It is the Government's job to ensure that the structure of the Civil Service, its working methods and the rewards it offers for success bring on the right kinds of talent: give it scope for personal initiative; and offer conditions which promote loyalty and commitment."

Detailed work on shortening the Whitehall hierarchy is being carried out by the personnel management divisions of the Civil Service Department under the direction of Mr Paul Channon, Minister of State.

Apart from more rapid promotion for officials of demonstrated capacity, the plan involves the possible abolition of some grades, like under-secretary and senior executive officer and the reduction in number of other ranks in departments that are top or middle heavy.

The efficiency and dedication of the lower grades seems to have made a strong impression on Mrs Thatcher and Sir Derek during their departmental visits. Both have spoken privately with great warmth of the work of staff in local offices.

Sir Derek, in a memorandum submitted to the select committee on February 20, gave further hints about the contents of his "conventions of government" document. It urges a greater emphasis on the management of money and manpower inside departments.

More professionally qualified staff, rather than general administrators should be involved in establishments and financial work. There will probably be more emphasis on management training inside the Civil Service as a result.

Saudi princess film was 'deeply offensive', Lord Carrington says

By Edward Mortimer

The ATV film *Death of a Princess* was described as "deeply offensive" yesterday in a speech by Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary. "It was a bad film," he said, "and I wish it had never been shown."

In a speech at a meeting organized by the Middle East Association, and obviously intended to repair some of the damage done to Anglo-Saudi relations, Lord Carrington recalled that the British Ambassador to Saudi Arabia had been asked to return to London as a "direct result of the 'Saudis' understandable resentment" of the film, which dealt with the execution of a Saudi princess.

Lord Carrington said he was sorry for the "understandable offence" which the film had caused to the Royal Family in

Saudi Arabia and other Saudis and Muslims everywhere.

He had received telegrams from Muslim organizations all over the world: "Having seen the film I can say that I too found it deeply offensive. Some incidents were clearly based on incidents and rumour. The new formula of mixing fact with fiction, dramatization masquerading as documentary, can be dangerous and misleading."

Lord Carrington emphasized that it was not the Government's job to ban a film "because we do not like it or even because it hurts our friends".

The Independent Broadcasting Authority was the statutory body established to supervise independent broadcasting," he said "and we must let it do its job."

He went on to say that he had been "distressed by

charges that we in Britain are anti-Muslim". He pointed out that there were more than one-and-a-half million Muslims in Britain, and that "more pilgrims travelled from here to Mecca last year than from the rest of Europe and North America combined".

There were mosques in all parts of the country, including the magnificent Islamic Centre in Regents Park, he said.

Lord Carrington said: "It is no good talking about Islam and the West as if they lived in separate cubicles. The two worlds are far more interdependent than ever before."

Common religious and cultural traditions should be respected on all sides. "And I hope we are entitled to expect a responsible approach when such sensitive matters are at issue."

Challenge for prince, page 14

Dutch coaster in near miss with munitions wreck

A disaster was narrowly averted yesterday when a Dutch coastal vessel nearly ran into Britain's most lethal shipwreck.

It happened at 7.30pm when the Ministry of Defence's radar station spotted the 528-ton *Mare Altum* heading for the site of the Richard Montgomery, an American munitions ship which sank in the Thames Estuary in August 1944. More than 3,000 tons of explosives remain on board.

A warning was flashed to the Dutch captain and a patrol boat was sent to intercept it. The *Mare Altum* changed course and missed the wreck by half a mile.

Failure to divert the vessel might have resulted in an explosion, which would have threatened the nearby town of Sheerness.

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Criticism of EEC counts is checked by MPs

It was endorsed yesterday by the Select Committee on European Affairs. The 1978 accounts were described by the Court of Auditors as inaccurate. Published financial statements did not allow the reader to gain a clear insight into the European Communities' financial affairs. The Select Committee, special report to the House of Commons, said the criticism was "a severe comment on the accounts". Page 7

Raiders grab £325,000 from security van

Six men, some armed with shotguns and pistols, smashed the windscreen of a Security Express van in Islington, north London, and escaped with £325,000. The thieves followed the pathway of the van with two stolen cars and held up several drivers of vans and lorries at gunpoint while one of them attacked the security van with a shotgun.

Continued on page 2, col 2

Baseball players set for strike

American baseball players will go on strike unless a last-minute settlement is reached unless a last-minute settlement is reached over proposals to alter the transfer system. Possibly the highest paid athletes in the world, the players fear the proposals will discourage the free agent market system. Baseball players went on strike for 13 days in 1972.

Page 8

Air dispute: A strike over the suspension of three workers halted flights at Luton airport.

Bristol riot: Community leaders told the parliamentary sub-committee investigating race relations that its visit to the city was a waste of time.

4 Hampton release: A woman aged 41 sent to Hampton special security hospital as a child has been freed.

5 United Arab Emirates: A 12-page Special Report on the seven Gulf emirates assesses their political and economic climate in the light of the regional crisis.

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 26-28; Appointments, 18, 26; Classic and vintage cars, 24, 25; Car buyers' guide, 25

Leader page, 15
Letters: On nuclear deterrence, from the Deputy Director, International Institute for Strategic Studies; on Jerusalem peace, from Brigadier Lord Ballantine; on social science research, from Mr Michael Posner.

Leading articles: Saudi Arabia; Czechoslovakia; Technical training

Features, page 10, 14

John Biggs-Davison on the prospects for Irish unity; Geoffrey Smith on the Iranian sanctionsiasco; Controversy over Ronald Reagan's California years, by Patrick Brogan.

Obituary, page 16

Sir Robert McEwen, Mr John Collier, Mr J. M. Lücker.

Arts, page 11

Nicholas Wapshot reviews *Star Wars*; *The Empire Strikes Back*; and other new films in London.

Philip Howard on the National

Home News,

HOME NEWS

Mrs Thatcher wants index-linked pensions to be offset against pay rises and announces an inquiry

By Fred Emery

Political Editor
The Prime Minister yesterday announced the setting up of an independent inquiry into the method of valuation of index-linked pensions enjoyed by some 5,500,000 employees in the public sector.

The inquiry had been foreshadowed in the Budget speech, by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in restating yesterday that she was not satisfied that what she called the "difficult problem" of valuation had been adequately considered in all the various schemes, gave a clear hint that she wishes index-linking to be offset against pay increases to a greater extent, and so help in the battle against inflation.

The principle of index-linking pensions as such will not be examined by the inquiry. Under the chairmanship of Sir Bernard Scott, chairman of Lucas Industries, the inquiry will be expected to report within three or four months.

Its advice could lead the Government, as employer, and other authorities in the public sector such as nationalised industries, to propose changes in their schemes, which would be considered with unions and staff associations.

Among those enjoying index-linked pensions are the Civil Service, ministers, MPs, the

judiciary, the Armed Forces, the police, nurses, doctors, and teachers; and many employees of local authorities and nationalised industries.

The inquiry's terms of reference suggest that the Government Actuary's methods of valuation (updated only yesterday in his annual report), need to be revised.

The inquiry is asked to consider:

1 The assumptions and methods used by the Government Actuary where he assesses the value of differences in inflation-proofing of occupational pensions.

2 The relative degree of security in the full inflation-proofing enjoyed by public sector employees compared with those in the private sector, and the additional value to be placed on it.

3 How to assess the relative job security enjoyed by employees in the private and public sectors.

In its report the inquiry may suggest what valuations, or methods of valuation, would be appropriate to take account of these factors in determining pay and other conditions of service.

A Downing Street press notice states that the difference between pensions treatment between the Council of Civil Service Unions, said:

Chancellor's offer of talks dismissed by Mr Murray

Continued from page 1

Ministers. "I would much rather sit down with the Government and get discussions going on these policies".

Mr Denis Healey, Shadow Chancellor, said that Sir Geoffrey's "olive branch on pay had turned out to be a cane". Speaking to the electrician's union in Eastbourne, he added that the Chancellor was offering not a dialogue "but just another lecture about the wickedness of trying to catch up with the price increases he has caused".

Ministers are likely to point out another "success" for their policy of moderate wage settlements in the decision yesterday by 5,000 Liverpool dockers to accept rises of 13 per cent, operative from April 26.

MPs' salaries compared

By Our Political Staff

In advance of the expected statement next month on increases in MPs' and ministers' salaries, Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Leader of the Commons, yesterday gave comparisons with salaries in other legislatures.

At Westminster an MP's annual salary is £9,450, due to be increased next month to £10,725, plus any recommendation that may come from the Boyle Committee on Top

Salaries on "up-dating" to take account of cost-of-living increases.

Yesterday's figures showed basic salaries in other countries as: Belgium, £21,535; Denmark, £11,390; West Germany, £22,098; France, £21,117; Italy, £13,014; Luxembourg, £13,748; Holland, £20,085; Republic of Ireland, £9,379; Australia, £13,451; Canada, £11,424; New Zealand, £8,648; United States, Members of Congress, £26,753.

Mint to issue 100,000 proof sovereigns

By a Staff Reporter

A limited issue of 100,000 sovereigns dated 1980 is to be struck by the Royal Mint, which said yesterday that 60 per cent will be reserved for sale in the United Kingdom and the rest for collectors overseas.

The sovereigns will be struck to proof quality from highly polished dies. The reverse features St George slaying the dragon and the obverse has a portrait of the Queen.

The Royal Mint said 90,000 would be available individually and 10,000 will be included in presentation cases containing the £5, £2, £1 sovereign and half sovereign. It is also intended to issue 100,000 1980 proof half sovereigns later this year.

The price of the 1980 proof sovereign will be £110 in the United Kingdom, including registered post. The Royal Mint is at first limiting the sale to one piece a person to prevent buyers on the Numismatic Bureau's mailing list.

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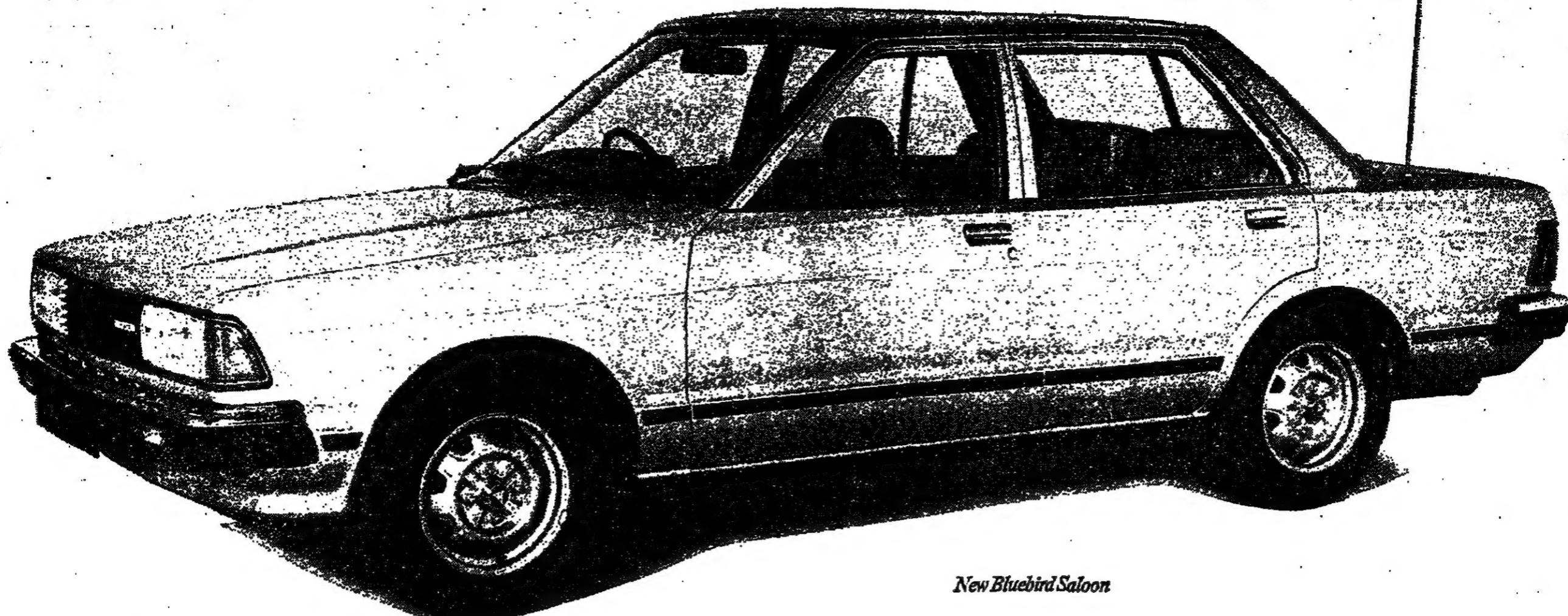
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omotive sciences can provide.

The result is the New Bluebird range - the quietest, most
anced and refined cars that Nissan designers have created. At a
ce that represents the ultimate in sheer value!

The first Datsun Bluebird was unveiled 21 years ago and since that time, successive models have
lished a world-wide reputation for performance, economy of operation and durability. Over
0,000 Bluebirds have been produced for world markets.

Now comes the most exciting Bluebird yet, a car to challenge and beat the best that Europe can
in the medium car range.

Technical Advances

High performance, high economy characteristics are engineered into every New Bluebird to
uce one of the world's top family cars.

The New Bluebird bodyshells are pressed from a very advanced steel which includes manganese
silicon; this new metal giving high strength, light weight and high durability characteristics.

Technically, there are other major advances for the New Bluebird. Harmonised suspension with
"no scrub" front geometry and rack and pinion steering for safety and driving comfort; independent rear
ension with semi-trailing arms for saloon and coupé to give outstanding road holding performance
comfort; newly designed, ventilated front disc brakes with power assistance to give stable and
able braking under the toughest driving conditions.

All incorporated in saloons that now have lots more space and sumptuous comfort for driver
passenger alike, together with a long list of special equipment at no extra cost.

There are four models in the New Bluebird range. Two saloons with the choice of a 1.6 litre or a
itre engine, a very roomy and good-looking 1.8 litre estate car and a Bluebird coupé with sparkling

performance from a special version of the 1.8 litre power unit. The engines are of modern overhead
camshaft design to give 100 m.p.h. performance yet, at the same time, use low grade petrol very
sparsely indeed.

But the overall economy of the New Bluebird is not confined just to good fuel consumption figures;
it has as much to do with Datsun's legendary reputation for mechanical reliability. Like all Datsuns, these
new Bluebirds are built to spend their time on the road, not in the workshop.

Executive-Style Equipment

In every New Bluebird you'll find a long, long list of special equipment in true Datsun fashion.
In fact, Bluebirds have more in the way of "extras" than some cars costing twice the price.

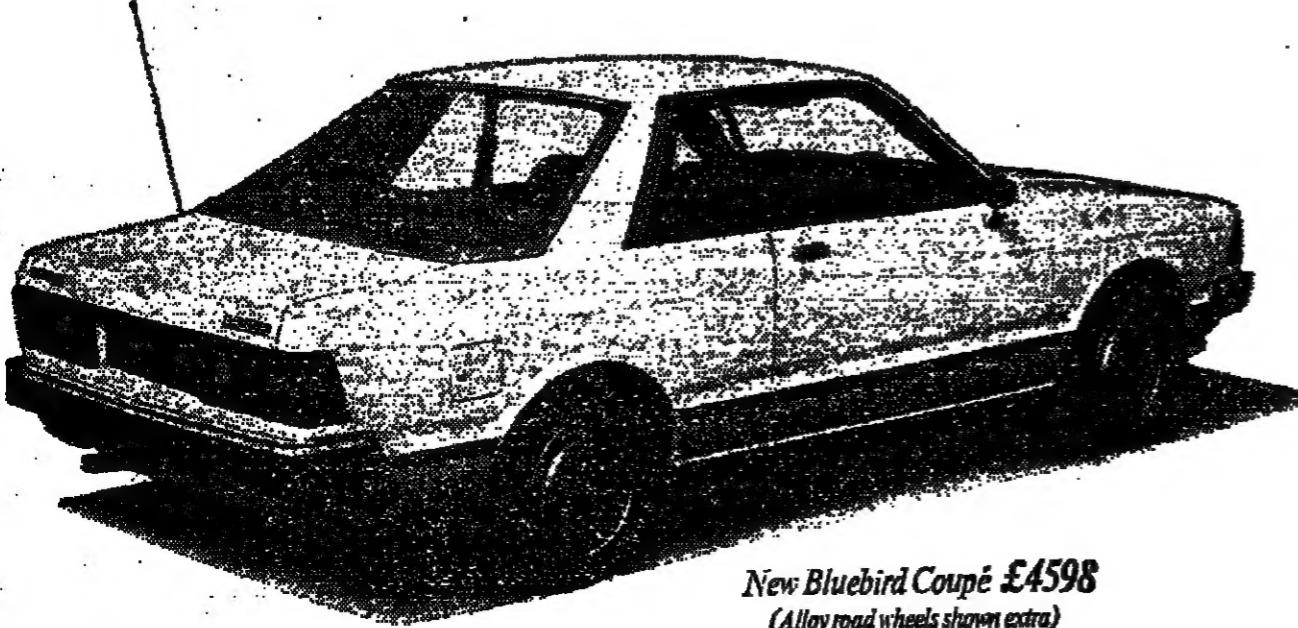
There's tinted glass * twin waveband push-button radio * quartz clock with month and date
display * two-speed wipers with wash/wipe and variable intermittent wipe * halogen headlights
* reversing lights * rear fog light * height and lumbar adjustment on driver's seat * adjustable steering
column * lockable glovebox with light * roof console with adjustable map light * panel-light rheostat
* an array of warning lights for washer level, battery level, low fuel, door ajar, etc. * a warning buzzer
when lights have accidentally been left on * interior release for boot and fuel lid * rev counter
* comprehensive bi-level heating system with rear compartment ducts * courtesy lights on all doors
* rear centre armrest * childproof locks * carpeted rear parcel shelf and much more.

All this at a genuinely competitive price!

New Bluebird prices start at £3990 for 1.6 litre saloon and £4098 for the 1.8 litre saloon,
which makes them outstanding value compared with cars like the Renault 18, Vauxhall Cavalier
1600 GL, Ford Cortina 1600 GL, or other cars like the Sigma 1600 GL and Montrose 1600 GL etc.,
which can cost up to £800 more.

With the New Bluebird range, Datsun have produced an
advanced new car that will influence the pattern of motoring in
Europe for years to come.

The New Bluebird is at your dealer's showroom now. See it,
and test drive it soon.

New Bluebird Coupé £4598
(Alloy road wheels shown extra)

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THE NEWS

Shotgun raiders flee with £325,000 after attack on security van

Witherow, a some armed with pistols, smashed the windscreen of an express van in north London yesterday and escaped with £325,000.

They blocked the van with a stolen car in Stretford, close to Islington. They held up several vans and lorries at a post office in

the robbers smashed the screen of the yellow van with a sledgehammer. The guards repented the truck. Four climbed inside and 13 bags containing £325,000, which was to be a post office in

the three security drivers injured during the raid. The thieves in a white mini van, was found later a few streets away, were seen running across Regent's Bridge over the River Thames in a transit van.

Zetland, who lives in Green, said he saw a man with a shotgun, a shotgun, before the guards before the was smashed. A furniture van between the thieves' forced at gunpoint to in his car and hand keys and a London Board lorry which

ng on warders later

of Appeal reserved yesterday in the case of prison officers who are suspended from their posts at Hull prison.

They are seeking leave to appeal against their convictions of assault and beat

given suspended York Crown Court last year ranging from nine months to three years. The came after a three-Hull which it was

alleged, gave rise to revenge attacks on prisoners.

Those appearing are: Kevin Burns, aged 31, Steven Newson, aged 28, and Malcolm Gurney, aged 48, all of Cowgate, Surton Park, Hull; George Clarke, aged 42, of Stratford Avenue, Beverley High Road, and Peter Watson, aged 28, of Bainsbridge Avenue, both of Hull; George Hodges, aged 45, of Pashamfield Close, Loughborough; and Andrew Wilson, aged 29, of Heversham Close, Blackwood, Warrington, Cheshire.

Mr. John Gunning, of Ashford, who was one of the dissenters at the undermining of officers' positions as a result of the "false and malicious allegations" made by prisoners.

He was disclosing the broad outlines of a national plan, ready for action down to local level, to be coordinated from the association's headquarters. Other branches are also expected to submit their plans.

The object of the exercise is "secret and surprise", Mr. Bartell said. "All action taken will need to be effective so as to ensure that there is a speedy end to the dispute."

What would trigger such action nationally is not yet

Woman sent to Rampton as child is released

From Our Correspondent

A woman who has been in Rampton special security hospital for 29 years because her parents could not cope with her when she was 10 years old was allowed to leave yesterday.

Miss Stella Maitson, aged 41, originally of Waltham, Grimsby, south Humberside, was sent to Harmston Hall, near Lincoln, after her parents said they could not manage her. Two years later she was transferred to Rampton Hospital, Nottinghamshire.

A psychiatrist has described her as harmless, with a mental age of seven. He added that she should not have been in the special hospital.

Mrs Iris Rainthorpe, aged 68, a farmer's wife of Sycamore Farm, near Market Rasen, Lincolnshire, who has campaigned for Miss Maitson's release, said yesterday that she had been found a place in a private home.

"She ran up to the security van yelling and swearing and shouted, 'Get out of the van'. The one with the sledgehammer smashed the window and then four men climbed through."

Several residents telephoned the police and Security Express during the robbery. Police cars arrived in the narrow street a few minutes after the thieves escaped.

The robbers left behind a blue Cortina and a blue Escort car, which were examined for fingerprints.

Mr. Rainthorpe has tried to get Miss Maitson moved for several years, and sought support in Waltham, where a 500-signature petition was collected.

He was brought in an independent psychiatrist, and finally the mental health board agreed to allow Miss Maitson's release provided that she had somewhere to go. Mrs. Rainthorpe, who has visited her many times, says that if her childish pranks had happened now she would just have been sent to a children's home.

Her case was mentioned in a television programme on Rampton. Mrs. Rainthorpe started the petition for her release as part of a national campaign to help Rampton patients.

She said that efforts to have her transferred to a hospital for the subnormal founded when a mental health tribunal decided it could do nothing to get her moved unless someone was prepared to look after her.

'Tragic Kelly case used for an almost neurotic attack on police service generally' Chief Constable denies charge of Gestapo methods

By John Charlton

The Chief Constable of Merseyside, Mr. Kenneth Oxford, yesterday joined many of his fellow senior police officers in a spirited defence against recent criticisms of his service.

His annual report for 1979 contained strongly worded ripostes to members of his local authority police committee who have attacked him.

Mr. Oxford said in his report:

"During this year I and my officers in Merseyside have been at the centre of the most concentrated criticism touching upon our integrity and honesty of purpose.

"Such allegations often of a biased nature from predictable vociferous groups bent on the disestablishment of democratic policing has been supported by so-called investigative journalism.

"There are some who masquerade this type of journalism and are patently incapable of detecting truth but enjoy shortlived fame which ultimately in my opinion, cannot and does not sustain forensic examination."

Mr. Oxford said that the case

of Mr. James Kelly, who died while in police custody at Huyton police station, had been used to sustain an "almost neurotic attack on the police service generally".

He continued: "What was said is misrepresented was that I and my senior officers would not have pursued our statutory responsibilities had it not been for such journalistic unfounded and without truth.

"The tragic Kelly case was further cited to illustrate my reluctance to inform my police authority of matters pertinent to their responsibility; again completely unfounded and untrue, but unfortunately seized upon by those who question the accountability of chief police officers."

In his report Mr. Oxford sets out his legally constituted position in an appendix which reads: "In recent weeks there has been intensive and from some quarters almost incessant comment regarding a number of apparently unrelated incidents involving officers of the Merseyside police, and in particular those stations in the Moseley K division.

"The manner in which the members of this force have carried out their duties during the year of 1979 reflected greatly their ability to maintain their enthusiasm, their morale, and their dedication in the face of the hostile criticism that have been levelled at the police service and this force is a considerable achievement.

"Such ignorance is maintained by emotive rhetoric and hyperbole by those groups who unfortunately postulate their prejudice as their principles, and this is ever present in Merseyside which in part reflects the despair of the region, aided and abetted by those of some of the media and journalists who would seem to have lost the ability to inform but concentrate on selective sensationalism.

"The manner in which the members of this force have carried out their duties during the year of 1979 reflected greatly their ability to maintain their enthusiasm, their morale, and their dedication in the face of the hostile criticism that have been levelled at the police service and this force is a considerable achievement.

"Nevertheless, what has manifested itself in the past year when relating to the Kelly case the grave calumnies that have been vested upon the Merseyside police in particular, the British police service, and chief officers of police in general, is that public interest and opinion is stifled by ignorance and not apathy.

"In a further point in his appendix, Mr. Oxford says that in refusing ill-timed aid, in some cases, irresponsible demands he personally reacted the charge of 'Gestapo methods' and that it had also been alleged that his refusal to comment implied a breakdown of trust between himself and the police committee. Such charges were refuted and without supportive evidence."

The Times understands that Mr. Oxford wrote this report in time for the printers before the verdict in the required inquest into the death of Mr. Kelly on April 16. The inquest verdict was generally interpreted as an exoneration of the four policemen involved but internal disciplinary proceedings are believed to be continuing.

"Mr. Kelly's family stated at the close of the inquest that they intended to go on pressing for a public inquiry.

Mr. Oxford declined yesterday to bring up to date his report or comment further. It was presented to the Merseyside County Council police committee yesterday.

Prison officers ready for action

From Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

clear, but threats continued to rumble around the conference yesterday.

Mr. John Gunning, of Ashford, who was one of the dissenters at the undermining of officers' positions that in 1978 brought the system to the verge of breakdown, said that if there was no action nationally in pursuit of payment for meal breaks taken during an extension of duty "we shall take industrial action."

The conference voted to call on the TUC to do all in its power to persuade the Government to hold a referendum on the reintroduction of capital punishment.

Mr. James MacLachlan, of Thorp Arch, West Yorkshire, addressed himself to Mr. William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, who was at the conference on Tuesday: "You introduced the death penalty in

How to give some laws more status than others

By Marcel Berlins

Legal Correspondent

The conference expressed anger at the undermining of officers' positions as a result of "false and malicious allegations" made by prisoners.

Mr. Bartell said that the object of certain attacks on officers was the breakdown of order in the prison. The balance had swung too far in the direction of the prisoner.

"We know prisoners tell lies", he said. "What is beyond our comprehension is the people who assist them, pressure groups, politicians and sections of management, for their own dubious ends."

Mr. George Elliott, of Manchester, said prison officers were vulnerable to increasing malicious attacks.

Although that specifically states that EEC law is binding even on future British Acts of Parliament, it has been made clear that such a provision could not bind, and that judges would follow whatever the most recently passed Act provided.

Professor Wade's "easy way out" is to change the form of the judicial oath. "If we should wish to adopt a new form of constitution, all that need be done is to put the judges under oath to enforce it."

If it was decided to entrench a Bill of Rights, judges would take an oath to recognize it and to refuse validity to any Act of Parliament, including future Acts, that conflicted with the European Community.

SOME GOOD BUSINESS NEWS FOR A CHANGE.

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men jailed for robbery on appeal

From Our Correspondent

A policeman's torch, shone

into the darkness of an old pit shaft in Ashton-in-Makerfield, near Wigan, at dawn yesterday, revealed the bodies of Barry Gough, aged 11, and Anthony Jones, aged 13, for whom an all-night search had been mounted, when they failed to return home. Police believe the boys had been bird-nesting and had fallen into the shaft, which was adjoining the local golf club.

Anthony Jones's father, Mr. Thomas Jones, aged 35, plant hire operator, of Windsor Road, Ashton, said: "That shaft is an open invitation to every child and I want an inquiry to discover who is responsible."

Police yesterday were awaiting the result of a post-mortem examination, but suspect the children were asphyxiated by poisonous gases.

years' jail for National Front man

Matthews, aged 44, a man of the National Front, was sentenced by

Mrs. Jones at the Criminal Court yesterday to serve fire to a print shop to the Socialist Party.

It was told that Mr. Matthews, a dustcart driver, her men were foiled when their plan had been on a crossed tele-

news, of Lorrimore Valworth. Stephen 18, a painter and of Lorrimore Road, and Stephen Fitz- 18, a painter and of Tyler Street, Kent, all guilty to possessing

petrol and wires, intending to

use them to destroy the

Union Place Resource Centre in

Vassall Road, Brixton, London, last

November.

Mr. Matthews was sentenced to three years' jail and Mr. Fitzpatrick was sent for borstal training.

Miss Anne Curnow, for the

prosecution, said Mr. Matthews,

a former chairman of the

National Front, Mr. Matthews,

fully paid-up member, and Mr. Fitzpatrick, a National Front sympathizer, decided to attack the premises after an IRA

march through London. The

next day the three men went

to the premises with the equipment to set up an electrically

detonated petrol bomb.

They intended to make a

bang and a flash so that the

WEST EUROPE

Errors in accounts of EC Commission re-indict by MPs

George Clark
Political Correspondent

Accounts of the EEC's financial statements are incomplete and shed financial statements to enable the reader to a clear insight into the unity's financial affairs.

A criticism, voiced by the Auditor, who examined the accounts for 1978, endorsed yesterday by the Select Committee on European Legislation in a report to the House.

The court gave examples of accounting errors and concluded "the overall effectiveness of the Commission's internal audit is a matter of concern".

It was the balance sheet incomplete, it also lacked an audit of the accounting rules applied and failed to other information needed to full understanding of the

It appears to us to be a severe indictment of accounts, and it would be fitting to know whether the Auditor, would, if explicitly to certify consider them as giving a full view of the effectiveness of the Community," the Committee said.

Committee recommended the Commons that the report raised questions of social and political importance and should be debated in the House.

Outlook worsens for cuts in British EEC payments

Ed Emery
Political Correspondent

Outlook has worsened setting Britain's demand for annual elimination of its contribution of more than £100m to the EEC budget, it said in Whitehall yesterday.

Worsening assessment was disclosed by Mr Haughey, the Irish Minister, who discussed with Mrs Margaret Thatcher on Wednesday.

Haughey said he was no optimistic because both West German and French governments had withdrawn offers they made in vain earlier at Luxembourg.

yan accused of Rome order attempt

May 22.—A young man charged with the murder of a restaurant owner told police here he had been sent from to kill "an enemy of people".

Ali Belgazem was last night minutes from being shot at Salem Fazzani, a naturalized who was born in Libya's shun.

as the second attack in Britain's Libya. A businessman was strangled on Tuesday, the Libyan exile killed here past three months.

Libyans have also been in London and one in Bonn, Beirut and

murder: Abu Bakr Rahman, aged 23, from was found murdered in apartment in a working-class suburb yesterday. He had been living in for about a month, working in a factory. Local residents claimed that he had been of the regime of Colonel and refused to return to his country, despite please his mother.

Libyan Embassy here d complete ignorance of man, who was the first to be murdered here.

ters jailed in Amsterdam

jailed in

Amsterdam, May 22.—Eleven who took part in riots at the inauguration of Beatrix in April were condemned in the Amsterdam Court today to prison ranging from one to four

heaviest sentences were to a Moroccan and an Indian, who were found by court to have been in the of fights between strikers trying to disrupt the coronation ceremony and police. Under Dutch practice names of those condemned were not released.—AP.

Socialists criticize Warsaw visit

Our Own Correspondent

May 22

François Mitterrand, of the French Socialists, has said it was perfectly for President Giscard to meet President, and that he did not ask anyone's permission.

He reproached him with Warsaw in full knowledge he would not obtain from the Russians. "If incident brings back nothing shows a certain imperfection on the part of Soviet towards us", M. Mitterrand in a television interview night.

It shows a certain on the part of France's foreign partners, we made any progress? silly not. Has unrest in

creased? Obviously yes. I would certainly not have gone there under those conditions.

We live in difficult times.

France is in one camp... She belongs to the Atlantic Alliance. She also belongs to those who consider international law to be a serious basis of international relations.

For that reason, she cannot endorse the military occupation of Afghanistan...

The independence of France, which is not neutralism, must be exercised within the limits of her alliances."

M. Mitterrand went on to reproach M. Giscard d'Estaing with behaving more as a candidate for the Presidency than as President, and with seeking to benefit from Communist votes through his foreign policy designs.

The Gaullists were more



Winter returns to Finland with a May snowfall in Helsinki yesterday.

Refund on budget unlikely in 1982

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, May 22

Brussels' net contribution to the EEC budget could rise to more than £1,400m next year, and any financial relief the rest of the Community agreed to grant Britain to reduce the burden would be unlikely to exhaust the Nine's existing sources of revenue by 1982.

This is the grim financial picture which emerges from the latest calculations prepared by the European Commission for a crucial series of meetings in Brussels next week at which the Nine will attempt to break the deadlock over Britain's contribution to the Community budget.

Despite the lack of progress last weekend in Naples, it is still hoped that a meeting of finance ministers here next Tuesday will be able to prepare the ground for a final compromise to be thrashed out by foreign and agricultural ministers later in the week.

The new figures produced by the Commission estimate Britain's net contribution this year at £1,083m. However, British officials believe that the deficit will actually be nearer £1,150m because the rising value of sterling has eliminated the EEC subsidy on British food imports.

The Commission's calculation takes into account the 5 per cent EEC farm price increase which at the moment is being blocked by Britain, but which Mrs Margaret Thatcher is expected to concede as part of a budget deal.

In 1981, assuming that agricultural expenditure increases by 18 per cent, the Commission estimates that Britain would suffer a net deficit of £1,415m. The only other net contributor would be West Germany, to the tune of £854m.

Six member states would get more out of the budget than they paid in: Italy, £537m; Ireland, £427m; Belgium and Holland, £378m each; Denmark, £354m and Luxembourg £195m. France would be in exact balance.

A separate set of figures, assuming an increase in agricultural expenditure of only 12 per cent, would leave Britain next year with a slightly lower deficit of £1,366m.

The Commission's calculations can be taken as fairly conservative because agricultural expenditure, which takes up more than 70 per cent of the budget, comes from which other member state, has been growing at an annual rate of more than 20 per cent in recent years.

MEPs back tunnel plan for Channel

From David Wood

Strasbourg, May 22

Some European Parliamentarians launched a campaign for a Community channel tunnel.

British, German and Benelux MEPs announced that they were bringing forward from the transport committee, probably in June, a report recommending a new tunnel linking Dover and Calais.

In part, the campaign is an attempt to win back British support for the idea of a unified Community. But practical problems have been investigated and it is believed that after initial help from the European Investment Bank, the project would be profitable within a few years.

Launching of the campaign was spoilt when an open quarrel broke out at the press conference between Dr Cornelius Berkhouwer, Dutch Liberal and a former president of the Parliament, and Mr Roland Boyes, a British Socialist.

Mr Boyes protested that a Community channel would put depressed British and French peripheral regions at more disadvantage than they were already.

Dr Berkhouwer angrily replied that he was not thinking of Mr Boyes' constituency problems.

The Pope praises Britain's vital 'international role'

From Peter Nichols

Rome, May 22

The Pope said today that Britain had an important international part to play in keeping with the values of democracy and respect for human dignity that are part of your people's magnificent historical and cultural tradition.

Continuing this thought, he voiced his hope that the difficulties in Northern Ireland will be eased by peaceful political means, and that it will be shown that peace achieves the works of justice, while violence does not, so that reconciliation and love will be victorious over hatred and strife.

The formal exchanges were unusually full. The Pope spoke of the good auspices under

which Zimbabwe had joined the independent nations of the world as attributable "to an initiative of the British Government that happily combined courage with patience".

He added: "I pray to God to grant that such positive results will continue to come from the same source."

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OVERSEAS

KGB-tainted reporters' messages checked in Moscow against Reuters, says former colleague

In the second in a series of articles based on exclusive interviews with The Times, Ilya Dzhirkvelov, a former KGB officer and Tass correspondent who defected to Britain last month, explains the intelligence role of Russian journalists abroad and their relation to the KGB.

All Soviet correspondents abroad are agents of the KGB, to a greater or lesser extent. But according to Mr Dzhirkvelov, the information they send back to Moscow is often tailored to suit the Kremlin's view of the world. As a result the Soviet leaders receive and even act upon a distorted picture of world events.

Mr Dzhirkvelov was a full-time KGB officer until 1956, and after a spell with the Union of Journalists in Moscow became a correspondent for Tass, the Soviet news agency, overseas, first in Zanzibar (subsequently part of Tanzania) in the mid-1960s, then in Sudan at the beginning of the 1970s.

But, as he put it in his interview with The Times, as a Tass correspondent he never lost touch with his former colleagues in the KGB, and worked for Soviet intelligence both in East Africa and subsequently as information officer at the World Health Organization in Geneva, his last posting before his defection.

According to Mr Dzhirkvelov, some correspondents are what he describes as "pure journalists", while others are simply KGB agents who use journalism as a cover. "Pure" journalists send their information to Tass, which distributes it as it thinks fit, while "KGB" journalists have their own channels.

In the final analysis both perform the same function, since both act as agents of Soviet foreign policy. A Soviet journalist, Mr Dzhirkvelov says, is by definition an agent of political intelligence, whether he works directly for the KGB or not.

While what reaches the Soviet press is tendentious and selective, what reaches the authorities tends to correspond more closely to the true state of affairs. But Mr Dzhirkvelov maintains that the authorities prefer an "interpretation" of events which reinforces their belief in the gradual advance of the Communist—or at least, Soviet—cause throughout the world, and tend to ignore less palatable reports and inconvenient facts.

When he was a correspondent in both Khartum and Zanzibar, Mr Dzhirkvelov tried—according to his own account—to alert the authorities on a number of occasions to the fact that the situation was not as favourable to the Soviet interest as was believed. His instructions in both cases were to form close

ties with members of the Government, especially those thought to be sympathetic to Moscow.

"I was obliged", he told The Times, "to get to know leading personalities, find out the balance of forces report back what changes were in the wind and so on. As a journalist I could ask questions a more obvious KGB agent could not."

In Khartum, Mr Dzhirkvelov reveals, he had a meeting every morning at nine o'clock with a regular KGB agent, at which he reported in detail his conversations with Sudanese figures. He also undertook intelligence missions on request.

It is KGB policy to infiltrate UN

He was dismayed to discover in 1971 that Moscow took the quite unfounded view that Sudan was ripe for a pro-Soviet convert. Mr Dzhirkvelov's knowledge of the country suggested otherwise, and he claims to have advised the authorities in Moscow and the local Soviet Embassy accordingly.

In the event the Communist coup of July, 1971, was short-lived, the conspirators were rounded up and shot, and the Soviet Ambassador was asked to leave. Mr Dzhirkvelov left Sudan discreetly soon afterwards.

After the Sudan debacle, Mr Dzhirkvelov served for several years as chief foreign editor of Tass in Moscow. He was by now identified with the KGB in the minds of African leaders and was refused entry to Zambia by President Kaunda in 1975 when appointed by Tass to see their correspondent in Lusaka. In 1977 he was seconded to the World Health Organization in Geneva as information officer.

It is KGB policy, Mr Dzhirkvelov confirms, to infiltrate the United Nations and other international organisations. But he feels too much attention has been paid to highly placed Soviet agents in the United Nations bureaucracy, such as Mr Gely Dneprovsky, the head of United Nations personnel in Geneva.

Mr Dneprovsky, Mr Dzhirkvelov says, is a huge centre of international espionage, the Tangiers of our time".

When he arrived at WHO, Mr Dzhirkvelov was told by his Soviet superior that his work

would be judged not by its contribution to the United Nations, but by the amount of information it yielded for the KGB.

"The more you report", he was told, "the better your work will be—and the better you will feel".

Geneva is not, on the other hand, a particularly effective espionage centre for the Soviet Union. This is partly because Russians there report what they think the Kremlin wants to hear, including conversations which never took place.

Another reason is the enclosed, hotchpotch atmosphere in which the Soviet community works. Negotiations, it is true, according to Mr Dzhirkvelov, and the craziest bed feeling. Also, Soviet agents in Geneva compete with one another to satisfy the KGB, with the sum of feathering their nests in Moscow once their tour of duty in the West is over.

The result, Mr Dzhirkvelov told The Times, is even more "disinformation" in the Soviet propaganda and intelligence system.

This is a situation which he feels cannot last, especially as the gap between objective truth and the Soviet version becomes daily more apparent to Soviet people through Western broadcasts in Russian. Ninety-nine per cent of those Russians interested in politics listen to the BBC or Voice of America, as indeed do the Soviet leaders themselves, Mr Dzhirkvelov says.

"More often than not we hear the news from the BBC rather than our own correspondents, and when our people do file we always check what they send against Reuters to see what is really happening."

With the "immense growth" in the influence of the BBC and VOA in recent years, the Soviet authorities have reassessed their propaganda effort. Last year a Central Committee directive in Pravda called for a more "persuasive" approach, and less "grey" attempts at "window-dressing" in the Soviet media.

There was, it said, a "propensity toward verbal babbling and propaganda clichés". A committee was formed under the former director of Tass, Leonid Zernyatin, to live things up.

The machinery remains, however, in Mr Dzhirkvelov's view, clumsy and permeated with "disinformation". There were red faces in both Tass and the KGB, he says, when Mr Robert Mugabe was elected Prime Minister of a democratic Zimbabwe, an event which Moscow had insisted the "British imperialists" would never allow.

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EEC stand isolates the British

Britain's EEC partners have decided formally to adhere to their decision to impose trade sanctions on Iran with effect from November 3 of last year, the date on which the American hostages in Tehran were seized.

This emerged at a meeting held yesterday of technical and legal experts from the Nine which was called to examine the implications of Britain's surprise decision to renounce the sanctions agreement reached by EEC foreign ministers last weekend in Naples.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher revoked British support to the retrospective application of sanctions because of a revolt by Conservative backbenchers which would have led to the Government being outvoted in the House of Commons.

The decision by the other eight member states leaves Britain publicly and painfully exposed as the country which talked loudest about supporting the Americans in "their time of trial" over the hostages, but was able to do least when it came to the point.

In practice, however, the retroactive element in the sanctions imposed by the other eight member states is likely to be more apparent than real. Few countries have signed any important trade contracts with Iran between November 4 and now.

Those countries which could be affected are expected—while formally—to turn the November 4 date to turn a blind eye to the completion of trade deals signed between them and today, when the nations' decision goes into effect.

It is noted, for example, that in West Germany the legislation may not specifically reference to this aspect of the sanctions. It seems that decisions will be taken on a case-by-case basis, and that partially completed export contracts will be allowed to continue even if signed after November 4.

If sanctions were strictly backed to November 4, the West German Government could face claims for damages amounting to as much as £2,000m from affected companies, according to sources in Bonn. France and Italy could also be subject to high compensation claims.

59 die in bus crashes

Delhi, May 22—Fifty-nine people died and 77 were injured in two bus accidents in western India. Police said a bus plunged into a river near Shimoga, in Karnataka state, last night killing 20 people, and 39 passengers died when a bus crashed into a bridge and caught fire near Ratnagiri, south of Bombay yesterday.

Muslim committee formed to seek Afghan solution

From Richard Wigg
Islamabad, May 22

The Islamic foreign ministers' conference has set up a three-man committee to seek a political solution of the Afghan crisis through talks with Moscow and in "other capitals" possibly leading on to an international conference under the United Nations.

The committee consists of Dr Habib Chatti, the conference secretary-general, Mr Sadq Qutbuddin, the Iran Foreign Minister, and Mr Agha Shahi, the Pakistani foreign affairs adviser.

Both Mr Qutbuddin and Mr Shahi warned the Soviet Union such contacts could in no way mean recognition of the Russian regime installed in Kabul.

The three-man committee will report back to the Islamic ministers' conference and then possibly to the United Nations.

A final resolution on Afghanistan hammered out in negotiations, which dragged on till dawn, included a reiteration of the foreign ministers' demand in January for the immediate total and unconditional withdrawal of all Soviet troops stationed in Afghanistan. Five representatives objected to the resolution—Syria, Libya, the two Yemens and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Mr Shahi described the conference initiative on Afghanistan as "a major forward step" in the search for a comprehensive political solution.

But besides the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of

Duch have their United Nations battalion headquarters.

The official United Nations forces give no hint of this situation. They show the United Nations front line as a blue cordon running at least a mile south of Rashaf, south of the village of Al-Tiri and almost two miles south of the hamlet of Bedi Yathoun.

The maps, however, are as lamentable as the incursions into the United Nations territory in southern Lebanon, for Major Haddad now has his men on the outskirts of Al-Tiri and has a tank on the northern side of Bedi Yathoun, having inexplicably also acquired permission to drive his military vehicles through two Irish United Nations checkpoints.

Ask the United Nations why their maps are so misleading and the official reply is that they are not misleading at all. The blue line marks the southernmost point of United Nations operations, you are told, not the northernmost positions of Major Haddad's militia.

A mere traversing of the barrel and the tank can rain shells into Hara, where the

Waldheim anxiety on Middle East

By David Spener
Diplomatic Correspondent

The world is not on the brink of a third world war, Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, said yesterday. "Governments and peoples are surely to alert to the substance, to resolve the problem, without any tricks they are ready."

Dr Chatti also insisted that the "useful contacts" the committee would now have did not mean recognition of Kabul.

On the question of the United States hostages in Iran, the final resolution, agreed unanimously, proved relatively undramatic in spite of the fierce condemnation of American policies in the Middle East and the interference or imposition of economic sanctions by any country against Iran.

But the foreign ministers appealed to Iran to continue to work for a solution to the hostage problem.

The foreign ministers also adopted a resolution calling for an immediate meeting of the United Nations Security Council to examine the "dangerous situation" created by the decision of the Israeli Parliament to annex the old city of Jerusalem.

Mr Waldheim said that particular attention was given to European moves to revive the peace process in the Middle East.

In his talk with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, earlier in the week, Dr Waldheim said to the particular attention given to European moves to revive the peace process in the Middle East.

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In January Mr Anthony Solomon, the Under-Secretary of the Treasury for Monetary Affairs, announced his resignation to become the president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Mr Solomon has not been replaced at the Treasury and informed sources suggest that his post will not be filled this year.

Senior US minister about to go

From Frank Vogl
Washington, May 22

The formulation and implementation of American international economic policy may soon suffer another serious blow with the resignation from the Department of State of Mr Richard Cooper, Under-Secretary for Economic Affairs.

Harvard University has announced that Mr Cooper has accepted a professorship at the Harvard Centre for International Affairs. Officials at the State Department said they had no idea that Mr Cooper planned to leave. Mr Cooper, who joined the Carter Administration in 1977, is currently attending a conference in Paris.

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Professional teams before crowds which could not be avoided comment on the embarrassing affair, although the decision to allow the 16 Arab men, women and children back to their homes was evidence that the policy of collective punishment was being abandoned.

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When Major Haddad demanded that the Irish withdraw from their outpost in Christian enclave, they withdrew. "I do not think this is a question of the Irish being a Catholic country—would be sympathetic towards their own cause and therefore feels betrayed?"

Or is it because the militias genuinely do believe that the Irish favour the guerrillas. The Irish Foreign Minister announced in Bahrain not long ago that his country accepted the Palestine Liberation Organization as the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people in any future negotiations.

Recently, General Emmanuel Erskine, the United Nations force commander, seems to believe that there is a political reason behind the times.

"The difficulty that the Irish have been having with the de facto forces (the Haddad militia) goes back a long time," he says, "and I feel that it may have all sorts of political connotations. They have drawn the attention of our headquarters in New York to this and they are trying to defuse the tension. But so far we have been un-

Baseball strike at an American summer

From Michael Leapman
New York, May 22

The sound of a summer is the

FOREIGN REPORT

Controversy over Mr Reagan's California years

The lessons of Mr Ronald Reagan's eight years as Governor of California are a matter of some controversy. When another ex-governor, Mr Jimmy Carter of Georgia, was running for the presidency, he, too, made some rather exaggerated claims for his past successes. Politicians should not be blamed if they overstate their achievements, but some of Mr Reagan's boasts do not stand up at all well to close examination.

He takes great pride in having returned \$5,700m (£2,500m) in tax revenues. He glosses over the fact that these were the profits of huge tax increases that he himself had introduced. Income tax, for instance, went up from 7 per cent to 11 per cent.

He says: "In California, the size of government had grown by 75 per cent in eight years (before he took office). During the eight years of our administration, there was virtually no growth at all, despite the fact that our populism was increasing faster than any other state in the union."

In Governor Pat Brown's eight years, the state budget grew by 130 per cent in Mr Reagan's, it grew by 122 per cent. Under Mr Reagan, when he says: "We have turned the bureaucracy cold", the number of state employees increased by 21 per cent.

Mr Reagan signed a Bill greatly liberalizing California's abortion laws. (Now he wants a constitutional amendment prohibiting all abortions.) He says: "I was elected Governor by a million votes and reelected by nearly as many." In 1966, his majority was 993,739 and in 1970 it was 501,057.

He is remembered with some affection and approval, even by people who opposed him. He chose competent people, usually businessmen, to run the departments of the administration and left them alone. He uttered terrible threats against the universities, but in fact quickly came to an understanding with them.

He could even argue that he erred on the right side, by taking California too heavily in the early days, to redress the state's finances. It allowed him to cut taxes at the end of his time, and enabled him to bequeath a huge surplus to his successor and permit Proposition 13, which cut property taxes, to go through.

He will not so argue, however. He is wedded to the idea that the panacea for inflation, the federal deficit, and declining productivity is a huge tax cut.

He justifies it all by saying that a tax cut would so stimulate the economy that government revenue would rise, not fall. He wants to cut taxes by 30 per cent over three years.

"What the President should be proposing", Mr Reagan says, "is what John F. Kennedy proposed in 1963 and put into effect, and that is a 30 per cent cut in the income tax. Congress only gave him 27 per cent average across the board but even so, the federal Government itself ended up getting \$54,000m more in revenue than it had been getting at the higher rates."

President Kennedy's tax cut, which was enacted under Lyndon Johnson, provided for a reduction of 15.4 per cent in individual taxes and 7.7 per cent in corporate taxes. Mr Reagan evidently just added the two figures together to get his "average". Federal receipts went up by about \$10,000m (not \$54,000m).

It is hard to put a figure on the amount he wants to cut from taxes, because he also recommends large cuts in taxes on business, the abolition of the windfall tax on oil profits, and a much more generous schedule

The second of two articles in which our Washington Correspondent looks at the policies of Ronald Reagan



Ronald Reagan: "Cutting the fat" off the federal budget.

for depreciation of industrial plant.

The total cut in taxes would be well over \$100,000m (£43,000m) (20 per cent). He does not appear to have any clear answer to suggestions that adding so much money to the economy would stimulate inflation.

Instead, he talks about "cutting the fat" off the federal budget. President Carter, and his two predecessors, Presidents Ford and Nixon, also did their best to "cut the fat" off the budget, and Congress has been virtually poring away at it and has even managed to balance the 1981 budget.

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President Kennedy's tax cut, which was enacted under Lyndon Johnson, provided for a reduction of 15.4 per cent in individual taxes and 7.7 per cent in corporate taxes. Mr Reagan evidently just added the two figures together to get his "average". Federal receipts went up by about \$10,000m (not \$54,0

Promises of reform have come to nothing, and the power of the princes is causing concern

Can a new royal strong man stop the slide in Saudi Arabia?

Six months after the Mecca fighting and as Saudi Arabia is about to launch its Third Five-year Plan the major topic of conversation in the Kingdom is still the film *Death of a Princess*. It is a symptom of the malaise afflicting Saudi Arabia that the Royal scandal takes precedence over the challenges of preserving the country.

Faced with what it feels is a direct danger of Soviet domination abroad and growing disillusionment at home, it seems that the Kingdom is suffering a crisis of morale. Protests for reform to satisfy the deepest grievances of those frustrated at their lack of say in government have come to nothing. There is little public confidence left in the government's will.

Officials privately expressed surprising gratitude at the end of last month for an American statement of faith in the government, when not so long ago one might have expected annoyance that the stability of the Kingdom should ever have been doubted. The statement followed a front-page story in the *New York Times* drawing attention to the profits that Prince Muhammad ibn Fahd, a son of the Crown Prince, had made from business dealings.

Whatever the truth of that accusation, it is clear that widespread corruption has come to be a danger to the loyalty commanded by the Royal family. Everyone expects a prince to do well out of his position, but some Saudis are beginning to resent the sums they hear about on a well-developed, sprawling.

Crown Prince Fahd promised a purge of corruption after Mecca, but at least one recent oil supply deal involves the payment of a second-generation prince of a substantial premium above the price the Kingdom receives.

Although the Saudi government draws much of its strength from the spread of the 4,000 or 5,000-strong Royal family throughout the country and its blood relations with the leading tribes, administration is highly centralized. Even relatively minor decisions are made by a tight group of senior princes. That was a virtue in the days when Kings of the power of Abdul Aziz and Fahd were imposing order on the country but, in these days



Women in purdah in Riyadh, and Crown Prince Fahd, the country's effective ruler.

of weak rule, blame for what many feel is the Kingdom's drifting focuses at the centre. Everyone is aware of the problems, and the government is not seen to be doing anything about them.

There is a concomitant demand for more public participation, with hopes pinned on the promised but postponed establishment of the Majlis al-Shura, or consultative council. It is far from being a movement for change, but it is just beginning to stir the Saudi people that they must now consider the kind of society that is to be built, how they can adapt their traditions to their new surroundings. It is significant that the most popular of the generally disregarded religious chat shows on television is chaired by Sheikh Tantawi, a divine almost Johnsonian in his forthright dispensing of the fog

of productivity has been laid, enormous strides have been taken in health and education and wealth has been effectively spread to a good proportion of the people. A severe monetary policy has dampened to below 10 per cent the inflation that arose from the excesses of the first years of the plan.

The heady days of release from their traditional poverty are over, however, and it is just beginning to sink in to the Saudi people that they must now consider the kind of society that is to be built, how they can adapt their traditions to their new surroundings. It is significant that the most popular of the generally disregarded religious chat shows on television is chaired by Sheikh Tantawi, a divine almost Johnsonian in his forthright dispensing of the fog

of discussion in urging people to take the comforts of the West while remaining true to themselves.

"Should we wear trousers?"

he was recently asked. "Why not? Should we sit in the dark because electricity comes from the West?" he replied.

Among most people the debate rises no further than general acquiescence to the proposition that foreigners are a damaging influence; the greater questions of how to turn King Abdul Aziz's empire into a state and how to discipline an independent, even lawless, people to productive labour are left to the radicals among commoners in the government. Although the Third Plan has not been published, the indications are that they will have their way.

Any such changes will be

deeply unpopular. There must be some doubts over whether the government still possesses the moral authority to impose so fundamental a change.

If the shift can be interpreted as westernization, there is unlikely to be opposition from the *ulema*, the senior divines. They retain a powerful hold on the country, but one that has recently been used for an essentially trivial conservatism, for instance, in the way that *mufti*, the employees of the Society for the Encouragement of Virtue and the Elimination of Vice—often erroneously called the religious police—raid hairdressers in Jeddah and beat up women found to be wearing the new middle-classes.

Juhaiman ibn Seif al-Oteibi, the leader of the Mecca insurgents, regarded the *ulema* as having sold out to the establishment. Certainly the tradition

remains of close collaboration with the temporal powers, if such a distinction is valid in the Kingdom, and while they have pushed for the appearance of piety to be retained, their very success indicates how little influence they have on the more important aspects of development.

The fact that they should be given their head, illustrates how much the government has abdicated its responsibility to provide strong, clear and frequently innovative leadership. More than once King Fahd simply ignored their protests; similarly, a *mufti* in the cities, too, the *muftim* who are the public evidence of the influence of the *ulema* are increasingly treated with derision as society more and more divides into groups without the common experience and interests of religion and poverty once gave.

The Third Plan may well knit the breach between prosperous city and declining countryside of the past five years; official hints have said that agriculture and rural industrial development will take precedence over investment in the large towns. In the cities, clan mobility is being reduced, easy money more elusive, and most people have found their social level; the non-royal élite taking much of their manners from the West and growing further away from the poor and the new middle-classes.

But what was especially significant is that the grounds for this warning were never tested. It can have been no more than an informed guess. There was not time after Sir Ian's statement for a thorough check to have been made of members' opinions. In any case, it is well known that squalls of parliamentary fury may suddenly subside when the Whips apply their pressure.

Yet the possibility of bringing enough of the critics into line was never discussed at the Prime Minister's meeting. The Chief Whip's assertion was made and never challenged, as it surely would have been if that had been the only reason for reverting the commitment.

It is recognized that by and large the Royal family has done a good job of development. An appearance of moderate pace has concealed real advances in the general standard of living. The fear is that the slide could continue to some undefined nadir while the government lacks the moral strength to reform (continued).

Timothy Sisley

Geoffrey Smith

Foreign policy how not to come a cropper

There were two dimensions to the Iranian sanctions fiasco this week. Principal attention has rightly been given to the effect upon our allies of such a ready reversal of an international commitment. But the Government would never have got into this mess if more thought had been given to how foreign policy should be conducted at a time when Parliament has become more assertive.

None the less, it would be a mistake to dismiss this isolated episode. The events in the House on Monday were in keeping with a trend for the present generation of MPs to assert the more than their predecessors.

It is no more than a half-truth to say that the decision to make sanctions retroactive was abandoned because ministers believed they would be defeated in the House of Commons. The Chief Whip certainly warned his colleagues of this danger when the Prime Minister convened a meeting of senior ministers within a few hours of Sir Ian Gilmour being given such a rough ride when he made his statement to the House on Monday afternoon.

This warning related both to the emergency debate that the Speaker had granted for Tuesday afternoon and, more particularly, to the subsequent votes on orders to apply the sanctions.

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Jeffrey Smith

1980

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INDID FRIENDSHIP

lish on the opposite page of a series of five articles by Mr Timothy who recently returned to our correspondent. On page we publish a report by Lord Carrington he deplores the damage to Anglo-Saudi relations by a Death of a Princess and of the need to "strive to understand" about di-way of life.

of a Princess was open because it did not a serious attempt to and Saudi society. It is the atmosphere of and rumour with which aspects of Saudi society rounded in order to make salacious detective story usly presented as fact have exploited the same to propagate garbled about attempted coups princely thefts from Saudi Arabian Monetary and public denuncia of the royal family by religious officials and we accused *The Times* of complicity in the West Saudi Arabia's stability, inment in Saudi Arabia's western attitudes. Who is have such an interest,

it is certainly not the people of this country. But if such rumours and innuendos are not to thrive, it is very important that the true facts about Saudi Arabia should be made available.

It has to be said that the Saudi authorities do not make that particularly easy. They censor rigorously what appears in their own press. They do not allow foreign news agencies to open bureaux in the Kingdom, nor do the accredit correspondents from foreign newspapers. Journalists working on Saudi newspapers are discouraged from writing regularly for newspapers abroad, and sometimes actually stopped from doing so. Journalists wishing to visit the Kingdom often have to wait months for visas.

All these circumstances make it difficult for outsiders, and in fact for most people inside the Kingdom, to know what is really going on. Even among those best informed, interpretations inevitably differ. Mr Sisley's interpretation is not the only one, and obviously not the most comforting to the Saudi Government. But it is the considered interpretation of a journalist who has lived for two years in the country, and it should be taken seriously.

It can hardly be denied after all, that the Saudi political system faces serious problems. What society in the middle of such a dizzying economic leap forward would not? Nor can it be denied that the events of last November

revealed some disquieting cracks in a hitherto remarkably smooth facade or that corruption in high places is extensive and arouses widespread resentment. Members of the Saudi Government have admitted this and have pledged themselves to do something about it. To point to the need for change is not to insist that a Muslim society ape an inappropriate western model. It is to echo the concern of very many educated Saudis who themselves feel that the industrialising, bureaucratic Kingdom of today can no longer be managed in the personal, absolutist style of King Abdul Aziz.

The Iranian revolution will certainly not be repeated in Saudi Arabia. Far too many features distinguish the two societies for that. But that does not mean that nothing can go wrong. Saudi Arabia went through a very bad patch in the late fifties and early sixties, under the incompetent rule of King Saud. That kind of instability would be far more damaging to the world as a whole in the economic and political circumstances of today. To draw attention to this danger and to urge Saudi Arabia's rulers to take it seriously, is the act not of an ill-wisher but of a sincere friend. And friend who is aware of the problems will also avoid putting pressure on the Saudi rulers to adopt policies—in such matters as the Palestine problem or oil pricing—which would make those problems harder to manage.

The mixture has not worked. Living standards have been stagnant or in decline since the price rises of 1978. The economy is in crisis not only because of external factors but also because of just those rigidities in the system which provoked the thinking which led up to the reforms of 1968. Now there are stirrings of the same thinking because there is no other remedy, but there is little sign of effective action. The recent much-trumpeted economic reforms seemed to offer greater flexibility with one hand while taking it away with the other by strengthening central controls. Exhortation, long since shown to be ineffective, seems to retain pride of place among favoured remedies.

Meanwhile pressure increases on those few brave people who engage in peaceful opposition or who, like Dr Tomin, merely try to establish small islands of freedom. Perhaps the Russians have ousted him but have got away with it, the mixture has not worked. Living standards have been stagnant or in decline since the price rises of 1978. The economy is in crisis not only because of external factors but also because of just those rigidities in the system which provoked the thinking which led up to the reforms of 1968. Now there are stirrings of the same thinking because there is no other remedy, but there is little sign of effective action. The recent much-trumpeted economic reforms seemed to offer greater flexibility with one hand while taking it away with the other by strengthening central controls. Exhortation, long since shown to be ineffective, seems to retain pride of place among favoured remedies.

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HUSAK'S DISMAL DICTATORSHIP

and if not he would have saved some honour.

Instead he made no visible attempt at reconciliation. So great was his fear of the spirit of 1968 that party members who would not recant were not only purged in huge numbers but driven vindictively into the most menial jobs, and in some cases imprisoned. The population as a whole was offered a rapid increase in living standards on the implicit condition that it gave up all interest in politics. The reforms were all abandoned, and the country came to be run by mean-spirited mediocrities.

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WS IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING

the chief points of concern are from the rather "great debate" on promoted by the last not concerned Britain's in securing an supply of the skills and needed by industry. It is this failure is a significant in Britain's industrial

The Central Policy staff, the Government's tank has been following its theme, and reported in a document dry, but scratchy. Since there are forces of inertia against acceptance of its, there is serious that it will pass without being acted reports making similar done in the past. port identifies some of in attitudes among that foster a bias in academic subjects in points out again the of a system of pay which refuses to count of supply and by rewarding shortage mathematics, while objection to rewarding far less useful embellishments of a university degree, shortcomings in the

schools appear almost insignificant beside the entrenched and time-honoured deficiencies described in the arrangements for training within industry itself. In many other countries the Government is closely involved in the details of industrial training (the report might well have relaxed its brevity a little to examine these arrangements, instead of merely remarking—just enough no doubt—that such things do not transplant easily from one society to another). In Britain, the Government has left matters mainly to be settled between management and unions in the industries concerned. It is an indictment of prevailing attitudes on both sides that this has meant the perpetuation in many instances of arrangements that are inefficient, inflexible, and shamefully unjust.

When the strongholds of privilege in our society are decimated, the apprenticeship system seldom receives much attention. Yet the use of industrial qualifications to close off many of the most rewarding areas of employment to those not fortunate enough to gain apprenticeships at the age of 17 is a scandal not dissimilar in its effects to the old eleven-plus

examination. At least a third of pupils who leave school at 16 go into jobs where they receive virtually no training, and therefore are never likely to receive any training at any time in their working lives. The injustice to the unskilled is coupled with an injustice to women, who enjoy far less than their share of industrial training.

Quite apart from the waste of talent that this system entails, it perpetuates archaic demarcations of skill which changed techniques have often made completely irrelevant. Retraining too, which becomes increasingly important as the pace of technological change grows, is neglected and obstructed. What is needed, as this report argues, is a modular organisation of training, so that skills (objectively defined and universally accepted) can be gained in stages throughout an individual's working life, without artificial barriers to access based on age, sex or status. Much of this was pointed out by the Donovan Commission 12 years ago, and little has changed since. The Manpower Services Commission is to report on the same problem later this year. It should come up with constructive proposals to overcome the system's ingrained resistance to change.

of forestry

General D. G. Moore reference to the Chief Officer's letter (May 9), ungracious to denigrate and deride the Forestry Commission, for it is nearly a full decade since the two Royal Forestry Societies of Britain (Sitska Study Group, Lochgilphead, 1971) initiated such an examination. No significant silvicultural response has yet materialised though further hundreds of thousands of acres of forest have been established.

Let us not shrink from the fact that windfall is the nightmare of all those engaged in this industry and that the financial implications of this hazard have not been publicly declared. May we challenge the Forestry Commission, or indeed the private sector, to show us one single forest of spruce of, let us say, 1,000 hectares in the whole of Britain which is being successfully brought to a planned harvest even according to the Forestry Commission's own undemanding returns.

It is entirely proper to criticize the inaction of the Forestry Commission, for it is nearly a full decade since the two Royal Forestry Societies of Britain (Sitska Study Group, Lochgilphead, 1971) initiated such an examination. No significant silvicultural response has yet materialised though further hundreds of thousands of acres of forest have been established.

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The peace of Jerusalem

From Brigadier Lord Ballantrae

Sir, My incomplete experience of "Palestine", to use a word which still remains convenient, goes back to 1957. I served there before and after the war, both as a soldier and as a secondment to the Palestine Police. I have been back there several times since the mandate ended, and plan to go again later this year. I have kept up close friendships with prominent Jews and Arabs, have argued the Jewish case with pro-Arabs and the Arab case with pro-Jews, recognising the sad truth that each case has its right overwhelmingly on its side and is irreconcilable with the other. On the single day in 1947 I was stoned by Arabs near Beersheba in the morning and had my head open while boarding a Jewish "illegal immigrant" ship of Haifa in the afternoon.

All these circumstances make it difficult for outsiders, and in fact for most people inside the Kingdom, to know what is really going on. Even among those best informed, interpretations inevitably differ. Mr Sisley's interpretation is not the only one, and obviously not the most comforting to the Saudi Government. But it is the considered interpretation of a journalist who has lived for two years in the country, and it should be taken seriously.

It can hardly be denied after all, that the Saudi political system faces serious problems. What society in the middle of such a dizzying economic leap forward would not? Nor can it be denied that the events of last November

bring the debate firmly in the question of dependence or independence but makes a distinction which is somewhat slippery between "strategic" and "theatre" weapons systems. He argues that theatre systems are "good" but strategic systems—other than American—are "bad". Finally, Lord Carver rests his case on the impact that a decision in favour of Trident would have on conventional re-equipment programmes.

I fully realize that this summary does not do justice to the arguments presented, but the outlines of the debate are clearly stated here. I would like to address myself to three issues only: cost, the value of independent control and the strategic/theatre distinction.

It seems abundantly clear that the decision to go for Trident will have a profound impact on Britain's conventional capabilities in the 1990s and beyond. Many of us are concerned about the rising costs of defence quite independent of the cost of a system to replace Polaris. It is hard to see how, given the trends of manpower and equipment costs, the Government can continue to maintain the capabilities of conventional forces at their current levels into the 1990s without a substantial increase in the defence budget for we have to make the pessimistic assumption that there will not be a period of rapid growth in the economy. To set aside in the budget a large sum for the Trident programme can only increase the pressure. What Sir Neil Cameron does not point out is that 7 per cent of the budget (a modest proportion of the whole, perhaps) amounts to almost 18 per cent of the money set aside for equipment procurement as a whole and no less than 26 per cent of the amount set aside this year for the production of new equipment. Something big would have to go to a Trident programme.

The question of independent control is, I must admit, vexed. The fact that Britain and France could use their nuclear forces on the sole authority of their governments must complicate Soviet calculations.

The uncertainty as to outcomes on which deterrence ultimately rests must be increased by the possibility that NATO may, in the event, not be monolithic. The British and French stand in the integrity of Western Europe is clearly greater than the American state and this increases the likelihood that either or both might use the weapons that each possesses to preserve that integrity. Whether or not Britain can credibly extend deterrence to the territory of her allies must be a matter for doubt but, so long as the Soviet Union is unable confidently to assume that a nuclear threat or a nuclear attack against the United

Kingdom would not elicit a nuclear response, the bargaining position of this country would be stronger.

The uncomfortable part of such a statement is that we may only be able to claim sanctuary status for ourselves through the possession of invulnerable retaliatory forces and this may diminish the value of the British deterrent for our allies. The more comfortable assumption is that the Soviet Union has to calculate the extent to which British (as well as French and American) interests are indissolubly tied to the security of Western Europe. We may indeed, as Lord Carver argues, be self-detested in the event, but that seems to matter less than the fact that the value to the Soviet Union of the annihilation of the United Kingdom may be less than the value to the Soviet Union of what the United Kingdom could destroy.

I remain unhappy about the strategic/theatre distinction. I like Lord Hill-Norton, incline to the belief that nuclear weapons are not usable or useful in fighting a war although I am convinced that they tend to deter the other side from using nuclear weapons both prior to and during a conflict. Given that the Soviet Union possesses a wide variety of nuclear weapons, I consider it important that NATO should possess nuclear weapons in order to deter Soviet Union first use and that there should be a sufficient range of options available to NATO so that the response can be proportional to the threat posed. The United Kingdom can—and probably should—contribute to that range of options pro rata either by undertaking to provide and man the delivery systems for American dual-key nuclear warheads or by producing systems of our own to add to the common NATO pool.

Some will deter the use of Soviet short-range nuclear systems: others—by threatening to strike the Soviet Union—should deter the use of Soviet systems against industrial or strategic military targets in Western Europe.

The logical consequence is that NATO must be prepared to deploy conventional strength sufficient to make it uncertain that the Soviet Union could achieve any worthwhile objective in Europe by conventional means alone.

We should therefore, in my view, consider what insurance premium we should be prepared to pay for the additional national and Alliance security provided by an independent long-range nuclear capability. My fear is that the premium may be set at the point where the conventional premium can no longer be afforded and has to be reduced. No one should pretend that it is an easy choice to make but I sense that by being encouraged to ask for the best that money can buy which is probably Trident, the Government's advisers have overlooked (or deliberately ignored) less expensive but probably adequate deterrent systems. Anyone invited to choose a car will go for the best on the market, especially if he is not having to pay for it himself, but there are other forms of motor transport available which are undeniably cheaper. If we cannot afford Rolls-Royce, we should not scorn the humble Mini. It may be much better than nothing.

I have argued elsewhere that there are alternatives available—either the run-on of Polaris or a cruise missile variant—which are undeniably less up-market than Trident but which will do the job while still allowing us to maintain our conventional capabilities more or less unimpaired. I do not think that the choice is between Trident or nothing. It need not be so starkly presented. In the rather frighteningly uncertain world that lies ahead I would however feel more comfortable if we had some means with which to bargain in a confrontation with the Soviet Union.

JONATHAN ALFORD, Deputy Director, International Institute for Strategic Studies, 23 Tavistock Street, WC2.

Israel and Unesco

From Mr Peter Cotes

Sir, No words of mine are needed to defend Mr Menahin from uncharitable slurs. It is manifestly clear that during the years he has used his art not only to give joy to countless millions but also to promote universal understanding between nations. When Arthur Rubinstein alleges that his great fellow musicians is a bad Jew, I would respectfully query whether it is not possible to be an orthodox Jew and a bad citizen? Not a bad citizen of Israel, of course, because Mr Rubinstein does not live in the country that he thinks it necessary to defend—from, of all people, Mr Menahin!

Arthur Rubinstein's "world" is, in my view, oddly insular, whilst that of Yehudi Menahin, with its broad, bold and compassionate vision, has long embraced the entire universe: sensitively noting that when wrong is done to some it is done at all. Jew and Arab form part of that brotherhood of all people of goodwill, unwilling to see the world as number of warring states, and hungry to replace the senseless national barriers with a belief that men and women are separated by the illusion of national characteristics.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

PETER COTES,

Savoy Club,

9 Fitzmaurice Place,

Berkeley Square, W1.

May 17.

China's new missile

From Mr Gerald Segal

Sir, Your leader (May 19) on China's new missile properly pointed to the greater significance of Peking's intercontinental ballistic missile for the West than for the USSR and the West's inability to find a quick fix for its military inadequacy. However, the most important implication of all was omitted, i.e. that the Chinese test may well be the necessary prerequisite to a modicum of Sino-Soviet détente.

As a result of the unsuitability of any short-term military option for Peking and the need to negotiate from strength with Moscow, the Chinese test was necessary on both counts to lay the groundwork for at least a limited rapprochement with the USSR. Sincerely,

GERALD SEGAL,

Lecturer, International Politics, The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

May 19.

A dubious privilege?

From Mr T. M. Thomas

Sir, Miss Julie Cowdry (May 21) complains that parliamentary privilege compels her to work some 20-hour days.

She does not tell you of the many three-day and four-day weeks it compels her to work in those months when Parliament is not busy, nor about the four months a year when the House of Commons is in recess and compels her to be on paid holiday.

I understand that there were 500 applications recently for a post in this overworked department—which ought to be sufficient comment.

Yours sincerely,

T. M. THOMAS,

Prospect House, Finchley,

London.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Retaining Britain's nuclear capability

From the Deputy Director of the Institute of Strategic Studies

Sir, It is with some trepidation that I follow three former Chiefs of Defence Staff into the marsh but I believe that there is more to be said about the maintenance or otherwise of Britain's nuclear deterrent forces than has been said so far in these columns.

Sir Neil Cameron stands for the continuation of the deterrent: more or less in its present form; he stresses the importance of independence of control and he is not unhappy at the prospect of meeting the cost from a defence budget which we must presume to remain more or less at today's levels. Lord Hill-Norton, in supporting Sir Neil Cameron, stresses the *decent* effect of nuclear weapons, doubts the validity of the American guarantee and argues that Britain's deterrent forces not only act powerfully to protect our own vital interests against threats or blackmail but also those of our European Allies. Lord Carver dissent. He not only questions whether British nuclear forces would be used in circumstances where American forces would not but he is not prepared to differentiate between Britain and the rest of Western Europe when it comes to a Soviet military adventure.

He then—and rightly in my view—brings the debate firmly in the question of dependence or independence but makes a distinction which is somewhat slippery between "strategic" and "theatre" weapons systems. He argues that theatre systems are "good" but strategic systems—other than American—are "bad". Finally, Lord Carver rests his case on the impact that a decision in favour of Trident would have on conventional re-equipment programmes.

I fully realize that this summary does not do justice to the arguments presented, but the outlines of the debate are clearly stated here. I would like to address myself to three issues only: cost, the value of independent control and the strategic/theatre distinction.

It seems abundantly clear that the decision to go for Trident will have a profound impact on Britain's conventional capabilities in the 1990s and beyond. Many of us are concerned about the rising costs of defence quite independent of the cost of a system to

other sign of
age
City,
19

When will
Sir Keith act
on Inmos?
Page 19

Stock markets
Ind 426.5 down 5.1
Gfts 67.54 down 0.04
Falling
290 down 30 pts
Ex 74.0 down 0.1

Lar
ex 84.5 unchanged
17900 up 5 pts

200 down \$12.00

ney
it's ending 17.17
th Euro \$ 9.11-10.1
th Euro \$ 9.11-10.1

BRIEF

ay on
tions
er.

overnment was unable
first Order before
yesterday implement
sanctions against Iran.
Explained that the
was trying to
ordination with EEC
after its decision to
from the EEC agree
sanctions the sanctions
over 4 last year.

British contracts for
services will not be
till the day the Order
delay means the
there is still a chance
sanctions by fixing
deals. The Government
dismissed this.
The Order is expected
next week, during
a temporary recess.

te oil chief



to Shelburne who
appointed chairman
British National Oil
He will take up
on July 1. Mr Shelburne
present chairman
Montagu, the
bank.

on's future, page 18

ce resumes
tracted legal case
ard and National
Company and four
£5m worth of bills
'resumes today.

orrowing

g on international
ries fell sharply (about
\$5.33m) (about
equivalent after a
of \$7.32m) which
ed upwards from
the OECD's monthly
statistics supplement
Paris.

prices up

A German producer
for industrial pro
cesses rose 0.3 per cent
giving an 8.2 per
on-year increase, to
the Federal statistic
in Wiesbaden. The
base 1970, stood at
1.1.

Yen order

these firms have won
yen (about £23m)
the National Power
the Philippines
geothermal power
plants, Fuji Elec
The other com
nematsu-Goto.

Energy agency draws up measures to prevent rapid oil price increases

From Nicholas Hirst
Paris, May 22

The 21-nation International
Energy Agency (IEA) agreed
yesterday to call an emergency
meeting of ministers in
the event of an imminent reduction
in oil supplies.

This was one of a series of
decisions taken by the ministers
in Paris to try to prevent the
kind of price explosion which
members of the organization of
Petroleum Exporting Countries
were able to bring about over
the past 18 months.

The meeting took place
against a background of oil
price rises by Opec members in
the past few days and expecta
tions of oil availability during
the 1980s sharply reduced from
a year ago.

However, it was far from
clear that individual countries
would make the political com
mitment and take the necessary
measures to cut consumption if
another crisis were to recur,
such as that triggered by the
revolution in Iran.

The final communiqué from
the meeting was vague and lack
ing specific details of how to
prevent another crisis and it
was stamped at over with
comprised.

Mr David Howell, the United
Kingdom Secretary of State for
Energy and Britain's representa
tive at the meeting which in
cluded all the leading oil
consuming countries except
France, said, however, that he
believed that the agency was
beginning to have a cutting
edge. It was an achievement for
21 nations to have come
so far in agreement on committing
themselves to reduce oil
consumption.

The commitments included
action to be taken in the event
of a shortage which threatened
to push up prices, understandings
to undershoot the import ceiling
for IEA countries of 25.2
million barrels a day for 1985
fixed last December, and mea
sures to reduce energy consumption
by 1990.

None of these commitments,
however, is very specific. Ministers
agreed that if at any time
tight market conditions ap
peared, "they would meet at
short notice".



Mr Niels Ersbøll, left, president of International Energy Agency's council of direction, in Paris yesterday with Dr Otto Lambdorff, the West German Economics Minister.

The intention was to deal
with a crisis which fell short
of the long-standing IEA system
to share out oil equally
if any member lost 7 per cent
or more of its supplies. No
trigger level was agreed for the
meetings to be called but once
a meeting had been called ministers
would decide whether to impose
harsher import ceilings
on member countries or other
forms of restraint.

There had been pressure from
some nations for a commitment
in advance to impose import
cuts.

Monitoring of countries' oil
use is to increase so that the
IEA would have better warning
system and a better idea
of what action to take if a
shortage developed.

The United States had pushed
for a specific reduction in the
import goals for 1985. Ministers
instead agreed that net oil
imports "should substantially
undershoot the ceiling, possibly
by around four million barrels
a day. This was not a commitment
to reduce imports by four
million barrels a day but Mr
Howell interpreted it as a com
mitment to import less without
saying exactly how much the
reduction would be.

If notice were given to Opec
of exactly how much IEA mem
bers intended to reduce imports
it might influence their pro
duction, he said.

A review by the IEA secret
ary estimates that Opec produ
ction in 1985 and 1990 might
be no more than in 1979, creating
a potential shortage for the
West of between 1.5 and 3
million barrels a day. Dr Otto
Lambdorff, the president said,
IEA members had been influ
enced at their meeting by the
rise in Opec prices over the
past few days.

After the \$2 rise by Nigeria
which meant that nearly all
Opec countries had put up their
prices again, Mr Howell
expected operators in the North
Sea led by the British National
Oil Corporation to raise their
prices in the next few days.

IEA countries are expected
to reduce the rate of energy
consumption to 60 per cent of
the increase in economic growth
by 1990 and to cut oil's share in
primary energy consumption
from the present 52 per cent to
40 per cent.

Ministers also agreed for the
first time a number of crit
icalisms of member countries'
energy policies and made recom
mendations to reduce oil con
sumption and move to other
energy sources.

Barclays to provide N Sea risk capital

By David Hewson

Barclays, the largest British
clearing bank, intends to put up
risk capital to back oil explora
tion in the North Sea.

The bank, which in March
recorded profits of £529m,
refused to disclose more than
the barest details of its involve
ment last night.

But it is clear that Barclays's
move represents the first seri
ous shift by a British clearing
bank towards using investors'
money as equity investment
behind speculative industrial
projects.

Barclays is a member of sev
eral international consortiums
involved in the latest round of
licensing applications for the
North Sea, but refuses to name
its partners and the possible
level of investment.

Mr Peter Leslie, a general
manager of Barclays Bank
International, said: "We have
decided, following approaches
from a number of oil compa
nies active in the North Sea,
to undertake equity investment
in oil exploration through par
ticipation in certain of the
consortiums preparing to apply
for licences under the seventh
round."

"Our decision reflects our
desire as a British company to
do all we can to support the
further development of a vital
level of investment.

Plan for local bodies

Mr John Stanley, Minister
for Housing and Construction,
yesterday confirmed the gov
ernment's intention to make
local authorities direct labour
organizations more efficient
and to encourage private sector
competition.

PRICE CHANGES

74p to 264p
Stres 3p to 34p
P 5p to 725p
A' 5p to 890p
5p to 155p

12p to 763p
Gp 1p to 25p
4p to 45p
right 5p to 75p
7p to 25p

THE POUND

Bank buys
1.11 2.04
31.00 23.25
70.25 66.75
2.73 3.00
15.57 15.00
8.85 9.55
4.32 4.10
100.50 95.50
11.75 11.50
1.14 1.10
201.00 191.00
550.00 525.00
Gld 4.73 4.50

2p a gallon petrol rise expected

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Petrol price increases of
about 2p a gallon are likely
after the reported Nigerian
oil price rise of \$2 a
barrel. This rise is expected to
be followed by the British
National Oil Corporation.

Shell UK announced that it
was increasing its oil and petrol
prices from midnight last night
and that these rises took no
account of recent Organization
of Petroleum Exporting Countries
(Opec) changes.

The price of two, three and
four start petrol will rise by an
estimated 2p, a gallon at the
pump. Derv commercial fuel
and standard grade burning oil
and paraffin will also go up. Esso and BP
will price up at the end of last
week.

The Nigerian decision has
been awaited anxiously by
officials of the state oil cor
poration, the largest North Sea
policies follow those of the
chief African producer.

BP oil companies operating in
the North Sea take the lead
from the oil corporation.

Nigeria's rise is the latest in
a round of increases announced
by members of Opec.

When banks are already
being criticized for making
excessive profits, such a strike
could prove as embarrassing
for Barclays as a highly pub
licized loss on oil exploration.

II drops Crane bid

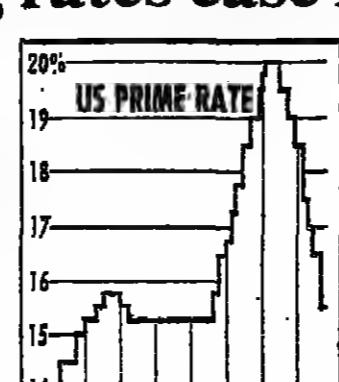
Tube Investments has
dropped its attempt to take
over Chicago-based Crane Pack
aging. Emerson Electric, a
United States company, has won
Crane with a bid worth \$196m
(584m).

The Chase Manhattan Bank
and Bankers Trust of New York
both cut their prime lending
rates to 15% per cent from 16%
per cent today.

The rate has fallen sharply
since it reached a record 20
per cent in early April and
there are clear indications of
further rate reductions soon.

Morgan Guaranty Trust
Company, which only yesterday
cut the rate it charges stock
brokers from 15% per cent to
14% per cent, today cut the rate
again to take it to 13% per cent.

With Treasury bills trading a
fraction above 8 per cent, the
disparity between most short
term money rates and the prime
and the broker loan rates is



now exceptionally great.

The Federal Reserve Board
does not appear to be making
significant efforts to slow the
pace of decline of interest
rates. FED officials say money
supply is now growing more

Charterhouse Group to make agreed bid for Keyser Ullmann: share dealing is suspended

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

Charterhouse Group, the
financial and industrial holding
company, is to make an agreed
bid for Keyser Ullmann, the
merchant bank. A joint an
nouncement yesterday said that
the shares of both companies
had been suspended pending
the revelation of further details
this afternoon after the stock
market closes.

banking crisis, and in 1975 it
had to be rescued through the
Bank of England "lifeboat"
and the clearing banks.

Mr Edward Du Cann, its then
chairman, Mr Jack Dellal, its
deputy chairman, and three
managing directors resigned.
Mr Derek Wilde, a vice chair
of Barclays, was brought in to sort out the problems
and help in the rescue opera
tion.

At the height of its troubles
Keyser owed £53m to the life
boat. But by 1977 it was out
of difficulties.

After that, however, it never
really managed to restore its
fortunes as a bank. Although
it had some £45m of share
holders' funds and around £50m
of tax losses which could be used
against profits, it was con
tinually undercut.

For a merchant bank it found
it difficult to get big corporate
clients. The most important
client is Lonrho, and there are some
other much smaller clients.

There are two strong overseas
operations in Paris and Zurich,
but neither is large enough to
make up for the loss of Keyser's
UK business.

Local authorities lift PSBR to £9,780m

By David Blake
Economics Editor

The public sector borrowing
requirement last year was
£9,780m. This was £650m more
than estimated at the time of
the April Budget and £2,200m
more than the forecast made by
the Chancellor in his first
Budget last June.

A late and unexpected surge
in borrowing by local authori
ties cut the surplus for the
public sector in the first
quarter of 1980 to £190m after
seasonal adjustment. Without
seasonal factors there was
a £130m surplus in the first
quarter of the year.

During the same three
months, local authorities bor
rowed £1,580m after allowing for
seasonal factors. This was nearly
five times as much as in
the previous quarter. Of this
sum, they borrowed £1,320m from
central government, so national
authorities have only just
been able to produce the
respective figures.

Although the PSBR is a key
target of government policy,
figures on how it is developing
are slow to appear.

The problem seems to have
been that a combination of high
price rises and relatively modest
ministerial increases last year left
local authorities strapped for
cash. They were therefore
forced to turn to the markets
to cover the gap. There is no
evidence at present that the
balance between income and
expenditure will be better this
year.

Public corporations also ran
into a less favourable financial
position than expected, with
slow payment of telephone bills
leading to a deterioration of the
Post Office's position.

The figures are bound to
provide some embarrassment
for the Government, because the
Chancellor stressed very firmly
last November that he intended
to limit public borrowing to the
£8,500 forecast at the time of
his first Budget. To achieve this,
he brought forward £700m of
petroleum revenue tax and if this
had not been done the PSBR
would have been nearly
£10,500m.

Because of the PSBR are
notoriously difficult to make
and are thought to have a
margin of error of £3,000m
either way.

The Government's forecast
for the PSBR for this financial
year is £8,500m and it is com
mitted to achieving a pro
gressive reduction in future years.

Traditional reports on the way out'

Traditional company annual
reports are on the way out,
according to Mr William
Kamoga, chairman of the interna
tional accounting firm Arthur
Young.

He told guests at the Arthur
Young Professors' Roundtable
yesterday that the increasingly
diverse interests of those
who use financial and other
information would require more
and more enterprises to publish
a variety of annual reports.

Mr Kamoga predicted that if
further more governments would
increase the extent of their in
volvement in accounting mat
ters.

He said that the attitude of
the Japanese and German
governments was a far cry
from the antagonism so per
vasive in my own government.
It's abundantly clear to those of
us in the United States account
ing profession that we have
a real job on our hands in
the decade of the 80s to

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

This is the recession . . .

In United States, evidence of a more general recession than originally expected to mount at home as well. The effects of the steel strike are still distorting the economic indicators such as the figures for capital expenditure, industry and manufacturers' stocks in quarter.

of the 3 per cent fall in capital may well have been the result of dispute but all the same the figures corroborate the earlier industrial statistics that manufacturing investment is heading downwards. And those who had been looking for a drop to herald the real recession were disappointed with a £570m fall, £570m was in manufacturing.

was also a spate of warnings from the corporate sector that profits will fall in the current year. In GKN, Delta and Simon all consider that the level of United Kingdom was slackening; Cadbury Schweppes was to be finding the going tougher one market despite the buoyancy of spending in the opening quarter.

equity market, however, is still taking the adverse news in its stride with the "more difficult" trading ICI talked about the main factor the 5.1 points fall in the FT-index moment the sort of liquidity that brought British industry to its limits unlikely to be repeated with as cutting back on employment and vigorously. And there is always the falling interest rates, albeit likely to be further back perhaps to late because of the Government's stand policy.

and off

course, has been signalling recession this. But first firm indications of its were none the less painful for all shares fell 10p to 364p.

first-quarter profits of £152m—above those of the corresponding three months—were well up to £152m in the first quarter and roughly in line with the two quarters. But selling price were responsible for a £48m sales in the preceding quarter to £1,523m. Volume slipped by a percentage

blunt truth is that since March has shown signs of falling sharply of margins are narrowing as prices plastics, petro-chemicals, and the long-suffering fibres division. is not yet ascertained how much of sure is due to heavy restructuring but is not disguising the fact that it is heading into a prolonged period of time.

is left leaning heavily on its 18 per cent stake as it runs into the recessionary the severe handicap of strength. Ninian helped lift oil to 26m in the first quarter and downgrading of production forced push them to £110m this year up £150m next year.

could slide to perhaps £520m this year before recovering a shade and just possibly leaping ahead. At least this is not such a bleak as that held out by some of ICI's international rivals, who lack the oil

thwarting the prospect of down the next two quarters the shares, a likely fully-baked p/e ratio of 8.5, a speculative yield of just under 10 per cent on a one-tenth increase, may not much further to fall. The market art looking to better times ahead the summer is out.

Ullmann

of a

the SAC

posed takeover of Keyser Ullmann Charterhouse Group makes sense. The day should produce a joint group by Keyser and Charterhouse, achieved by one-for-one share deal. is losing its name and is giving a slice of its assets and potential by way of some £50m tax losses, getting out of a cul-de-sac. Charter-

Business Diary: Call of the Wilde • A television turn-off



"And if Lonrho does get control of Harrods from the Frasers we'll have the perfect excuse for moving down market and shopping for what we can afford in Oxford Street."

William Lister has some news and views for those who bought shares in Mothercare during last summer's black-out. On commercial television, as well as for those advertisers who think that people prefer watching TV to almost anything. His message is: there is no baby boom on the way.

Lister is a research biologist at the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Hammersmith Hospital, London. He told me yesterday that he takes issue with fellow researchers, as well as with many women journalists, who rushed into print last year with predictions that the TV black-out would be followed nine months later by a big increase in births.

If you go forward 267 days,

the average period of gestation from July 23, the first day of the "black-out" then, Lister says, you come to April 23.

The register of births for that date is now available and, give or take a few days for delayed registrations, shows an increase over the same week of last year of 3.1 per cent. Yet for the first 17 weeks of this year, the increase was even higher, 3.6 per cent.

If anything, therefore, it can be argued that fewer babies were conceived during the black-out than before—and that's enough, Lister says, to be statistically significant.

He has some eride ideas on why more people did not make fruitful love. I think they just switched over to BBC.

If you go forward 267 days,

Technology

Inmos: when will Sir Keith make up his mind?



Dr Richard Petritz, head of Inmos (US) and joint founder of the company.

instalment in a costly failure. As you will know, for standard chips the development costs are high and for companies that fail to achieve high volume, the losses, which in this case would fall on the taxpayer, are large".

His first stop in Silicon Valley will be SRI International (formerly Stanford Research Institute), where he will be briefed on micro-electronics and bio-technology.

Nearly a year ago, in a report to Sir Keith's department, SRI said that if the United Kingdom did not vigorously embrace this new micro-electronics technology her position in the world

economy, and even her social vitality could be seriously impaired.

It continued: "A great deal of the current debate has the tone of resistance—as if resistance was constructive. It is time for the analytic foundation of the United Kingdom's debate to shift from the issue of whether or not to proceed to a focus on how best to move ahead".

Specifically, the SRI report highlighted the scale of the involvement: "Success dictates commitment to long-range plans requiring relatively high near-term capital investments and recognition of risks".

Successful pursuit of world markets, it emphasised, would impact on the United Kingdom's economic exploitation of micro-electronics technology. This squares very much with the main thrust of the Government's industrial policy aimed at stimulating innovative enterprise and commercial flair.

Sir Keith's dilemma is a painful one; the Inmos venture is clearly a case of the right technology in the right place at the right time. All of which should commend it to the Government—but it needs large amounts of public money which is anathema to the Government and particularly to the Secretary of State for Industry.

A recent development which has contributed to the delay in making a decision on Inmos has been GEC's Sir Arnold Weinstock's interest in acquiring part or all of Inmos. Shortly after Inmos was

launched by the NEB in the spring of 1978, GEC revealed that in an about-turn of its business philosophy it was joining with the American Fairchild Corporation in a joint semi-conductor venture in the United Kingdom. Since then Fairchild has been acquired by France's Schlumberger group and the project appears to be in doubt, despite the fact that work on the production facility is well advanced in Cheshire.

GEC sought detailed information on the Inmos project and on the basis of the answers supplied by the NEB has apparently decided that it is no longer interested. But the precise status of GEC's possible involvement remains far from clear. For earlier this week Mr Ian Halliday, chief executive of the NEB, insisted that discussions were still continuing.

AGEC solution to the Inmos problem would, of course, neatly unhook Sir Keith from the horns of his dilemma. Mr Halliday's declaration was made during a presentation to MPs by Dr Richard Petritz, head of the Inmos United States operation and one of the company's three founders.

Urging a prompt decision on the further tranches of NEB cash, Dr Petritz listed the benefits of Inmos to the United Kingdom. It would, he said, provide a domestic semiconductor resource, achieve important technology transfer and establish a high value industry for a minimal investment of £50m. It would also

Kenneth Owen and Peter Hill

Another sign of change in the city

Roman Eisenstein discusses the background to the Charterhouse Keyser bid

The expected announcement today of the takeover of Keyser Ullmann by the Charterhouse Group will bring to a fitting and widely expected end one of the more colourful episodes of recent City history.

The Charterhouse bid is in fact the latest in a recent spate of City moves involving merchant banks and financial intermediaries, such as brokers and jobbers, which could transform the financial scene over the next few years.

In the past few weeks Antony Gibbs, a member of the Accepting Houses Committee, the inner ring of merchant banks has been taken over by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Singer & Friedlander, another Accepting House, will be sold off after the takeover of its parent company C. T. Bowring by Marsh & McLennan, the giant American insurance broking group.

Hill Samuel, one of the largest of Accepting Houses, has had takeover talks with Merrill Lynch, the world's largest investment broking company. Even though it now looks as if this particular merger will not take place, the fact that such exploratory talks occurred is evidence of the turmoil into which international banking and finance is being thrown. Merrill Lynch plus Hill Samuel may come to be seen as a good idea.

Some banks think in terms of taking over brokers and becoming American-style investment banks; some brokers think of acquiring a stronger capital base to compete with banks. Foreign institutions lurk behind the scenes seeking entry into new ventures.

Established institutions have predictably reacted coolly to the idea of changes. The Stock Exchange will have to be dragged by hands and feet bound before negotiated commission comes in and the broker-jobber distinction disappears, let alone new dealers introduced on the market. The Accepting Houses Committee told Antony Gibbs that because it was being taken over by a foreign group it would have to resign from the committee, while Singer & Friedlander has been given six months to find new owners which might be another group or possibly the executive staff itself.

The 1980s were a heyday for merchant banks. It was a period of almost continual takeovers and the rise of financial companies many of which failed to survive the harsher environment of the following decades.

The seventies were different. Merchant banks make their living mainly from banking services and fees. The weakness of sterling and generally long periods of high interest rates put them at a disadvantage, compared with the clearers, on their banking business.

Merchant banks get their deposits from the so-called

wholesale market where depositors are other banks and large companies. When interest rates are high, they are squeezed because they pay interest on virtually all deposits. Over the past few years, as banking statistics show, merchant banks have been losing ground to the bigger clearers.

Keyser's banking past pedigree is anything but frig. Its foundation dates back to the late century. In the late sixties until the crisis it was effectively run by two brothers-in-law, Mr Roland Franklin, son of the previous chairman, and Mr Ian Stouts, who had gone to the London School of Economics into banking after a promising career as a violinist. Mr Franklin is the man who gave Sir James Goldsmith the share he held by British banks declined. And, with shares falling to keep pace with inflation, investment advice has not been as good a business as previously.

So the gloss has worn off. Ironically, this is happening at a time when the banks seem to be pulling themselves up by their bootstraps. Some, such as Hill Samuel, have gone for size through mergers, others such as Warburg, Arbutnott, Latham,

and so on. The group was left with £54m of losses. Mr Franklin, Mr Stouts, Mr Delia and Mr Gelder, who became respectively deputy chairman and managing director of Keyser. Mr Delia was a seasoned property speculator. Within a few weeks he involved Keyser in property loans and purchases which, when the crisis struck, could not be unwound.

The group was left with £54m of losses. Mr Franklin, Mr Stouts, Mr Delia and Mr Gelder all had to resign and the Bank of England through the "Lifeboat" lent £55m and put in as chairman. Mr Derek Wilds, a deputy chairman from Barclays' Mr Edward du Cann, chairman of the 1922 Committee and of Keyser Ullmann, also resigned.

Although Keyser has now restored its finances its City reputation had been permanently tarnished. Its takeover by someone was in the end inevitable.

Charterhouse, both a financial and an industrial holding group, which owns Charterhouse Japhet, an Accepting House, employs £105m of capital, of which £70m belongs to shareholders. Together with Keyser the joint group will be employing some £150m of capital, of which £60m will be used in the bank—four times the present size of Charterhouse Japhet. It will be one of the larger entities in the merchant banking field.

Gibbs or Samuel Montagu have either acquired new partners or been taken over by larger and well capitalised groups. Almost all have been expanding overseas.

In fact, with the probable fall in interest rates, North Sea oil and the abolition of exchange controls the outlook is quite bright.

This is the background in which the takeover of Keyser Ullmann by the Charterhouse Group is taking place. Keyser Ullmann was one of the prime victims of the fringe banking crisis during which it found itself in the Bank of England "Lifeboat", along with some highly exotic financial groups, including fringe banks, property groups and other less well defined entities.

Keyser's predicament followed a takeover binge which took it from a small, well respected and old established merchant bank to a large, untried bank cum property company. It was short on corporate clients and long on cash, bricks and mortar.

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Charterhouse, both a financial and an industrial holding group, which owns Charterhouse Japhet, an Accepting House, employs £105

Stock Exchange Prices

Engineers suffer setback

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 12. Dealings End, May 30. § Contango Day, June 2. Settlement Day, June 9

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY **BELL'S**

1979 80												1979 80															
Int. Gross	Div	Low	Price	Chg	per	Yield	Yield	1979 80	Int. Gross	Div	Low	Price	Chg	per	Yield	Yield	1979 80	Int. Gross	Div	Low	Price	Chg	per	Yield	Yield		
Low Stock	Low	Company	High	Low	Company	High	Low	High	Low	Company	High	Low	Price	Chg	per	Yield	Yield	High	Low	Company	High	Low	Price	Chg	per	Yield	Yield
FISH FUNDS																											
754 Fresh	135c	1950	294	11	1088	14.495	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	1088	14.495	10	1950	294	1088	14.495	10	1950	294	1088	14.495	10	1950	294
755 Fresh	130c	1950	294	11	1112	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	1112	14.500	10	1950	294	1112	14.500	10	1950	294	1112	14.500	10	1950	294
756 Fresh	135c	1950	294	11	1091	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	1091	14.500	10	1950	294	1091	14.500	10	1950	294	1091	14.500	10	1950	294
757 Fresh	130c	1950	294	11	1081	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	1081	14.500	10	1950	294	1081	14.500	10	1950	294	1081	14.500	10	1950	294
758 Fresh	125c	1950	294	11	1051	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	1051	14.500	10	1950	294	1051	14.500	10	1950	294	1051	14.500	10	1950	294
759 Fresh	120c	1950	294	11	1031	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	1031	14.500	10	1950	294	1031	14.500	10	1950	294	1031	14.500	10	1950	294
760 Fresh	115c	1950	294	11	1011	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	1011	14.500	10	1950	294	1011	14.500	10	1950	294	1011	14.500	10	1950	294
761 Fresh	110c	1950	294	11	991	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	991	14.500	10	1950	294	991	14.500	10	1950	294	991	14.500	10	1950	294
762 Fresh	105c	1950	294	11	971	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	971	14.500	10	1950	294	971	14.500	10	1950	294	971	14.500	10	1950	294
763 Fresh	100c	1950	294	11	951	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	951	14.500	10	1950	294	951	14.500	10	1950	294	951	14.500	10	1950	294
764 Fresh	95c	1950	294	11	931	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	931	14.500	10	1950	294	931	14.500	10	1950	294	931	14.500	10	1950	294
765 Fresh	90c	1950	294	11	911	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	911	14.500	10	1950	294	911	14.500	10	1950	294	911	14.500	10	1950	294
766 Fresh	85c	1950	294	11	891	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	891	14.500	10	1950	294	891	14.500	10	1950	294	891	14.500	10	1950	294
767 Fresh	80c	1950	294	11	871	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	871	14.500	10	1950	294	871	14.500	10	1950	294	871	14.500	10	1950	294
768 Fresh	75c	1950	294	11	851	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	851	14.500	10	1950	294	851	14.500	10	1950	294	851	14.500	10	1950	294
769 Fresh	70c	1950	294	11	831	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	831	14.500	10	1950	294	831	14.500	10	1950	294	831	14.500	10	1950	294
770 Fresh	65c	1950	294	11	811	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	811	14.500	10	1950	294	811	14.500	10	1950	294	811	14.500	10	1950	294
771 Fresh	60c	1950	294	11	791	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	791	14.500	10	1950	294	791	14.500	10	1950	294	791	14.500	10	1950	294
772 Fresh	55c	1950	294	11	771	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	771	14.500	10	1950	294	771	14.500	10	1950	294	771	14.500	10	1950	294
773 Fresh	50c	1950	294	11	751	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	751	14.500	10	1950	294	751	14.500	10	1950	294	751	14.500	10	1950	294
774 Fresh	45c	1950	294	11	731	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	731	14.500	10	1950	294	731	14.500	10	1950	294	731	14.500	10	1950	294
775 Fresh	40c	1950	294	11	711	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	711	14.500	10	1950	294	711	14.500	10	1950	294	711	14.500	10	1950	294
776 Fresh	35c	1950	294	11	691	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	691	14.500	10	1950	294	691	14.500	10	1950	294	691	14.500	10	1950	294
777 Fresh	30c	1950	294	11	671	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	671	14.500	10	1950	294	671	14.500	10	1950	294	671	14.500	10	1950	294
778 Fresh	25c	1950	294	11	651	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	651	14.500	10	1950	294	651	14.500	10	1950	294	651	14.500	10	1950	294
779 Fresh	20c	1950	294	11	631	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	631	14.500	10	1950	294	631	14.500	10	1950	294	631	14.500	10	1950	294
780 Fresh	15c	1950	294	11	611	14.500	10	1950	294	Fish	121	21	611	14.500	10	1950	294	611	14.500	10	1950	294	611	14.5			

^a Ex dividend, ^b Forecast dividend, ^c Corrected price, ^d Interim payment passed, ^e Price at suspension, ^f Dividend and yield exclude a special payment, ^g Bid for company, ^h Pre-merger figures, ⁱ Forecast earnings, ^j Ex capital distribution, ^k F.s. rights, ^l Ex option or share split, ^m Tax free, ⁿ Price adjusted for late dealings, ^o No significant data.



Classic & vintage cars



Love affair or good investment?

"In my swift *De Dion Bouton* I collided with some trippers. Left them aussi mort que morton. Squashed them out as flat as kippers. What a nuisance trippers are. I must now re-paint the car."

As recently as 1960 it was not necessary to be particularly rich to buy and run a vintage or even veteran car, whether for playing hums, the-tripper or for less rhythmic pastimes. Interest in collecting cars, as opposed to appreciation of their utility value, first began after the Second World War, when destruction and cannibalisation had given many of the older models a rarity value, but it only turned into a big business in the mid-1960s.

For instance, 20 years ago a Rolls-Royce Phantom III of 1937-38, with its 12 cylinder engine and voracious consumption of petrol, would have been virtually unsaleable. However, only 700 were made, and today, despite rising oil prices, examples have changed hands at up to £50,000.

Nowadays there are a number of points of similarity with the art and antique markets, and as with them the basic terms of reference have been carefully codified. Veteran cars are pre-1904, and vintage covers the period from 1919 to 1930, with an intervening "Edwardian" class. The term for the whole market, including more recent models, is collectors' cars.

It is also possible to distinguish four different types of buyer. There is the young enthusiast, with oil up to the elbows, who will probably concentrate on post-war models or on early motor bikes, since they are more cheaply bought and restored. Then there is the older enthusiast who has been involved since the early days and can thus pay for a new acquisition by the sale of an old.

There is old money looking for an investment, although as Michael Worthington-Williams of Sotheby's says, in purely pecuniary terms it is better to look elsewhere, the real investment being in enjoyment of the car itself. Lastly there is new money in search of particularly grand toys, and especially toys with an investment potential.

As I spoke to Christopher Rawick of Coys, the Kensington vintage car dealers, this last category was exemplified by a Welsh slot-machine manufacturer who was test driving a Phantom

1919

Los Angeles in February 1979 by Barbara Streisand

1979. This had changed hands in 1971 for £10,000. Mr Renwick is a believer in the investment potential of the finest cars, since his calculations on the top ten types have shown an annual rate of appreciation of 42 per cent over the past 20 years.

Other experts like Mr Worthington-Williams and Robert Brooks of Christie's, who like Sotheby's, hold regular sales both in Britain and America, are less enthusiastic about investment. All, however, are agreed that buying such cars is an intensely personal matter, and that many of the highest prices are caused by love affairs between individual buyers and individual machines. Mr Brooks points to the 1933 Packard convertible bought for £55,000 in

Los Angeles in February 1979 which was bought for a large sum at a sale in Ireland, but which on close inspection turned out to be a modified Delahaye lorry from the 1930s with various other cannibalised parts.

Given the present high interest rates and the prices that a first-time buyer must expect to pay, it is essential to avoid this sort of pitfall. It is best to go to one of the better-known dealers, like Coys of Kensington, to one of the most reputable auctioneers such as Christie's, Sotheby's or London Alcock of Hereford, who hold regular sales.

There are also various motoring clubs such as the Veteran Car Club which will give advice, and the AA and RAC will help with checking for mechanical problems.

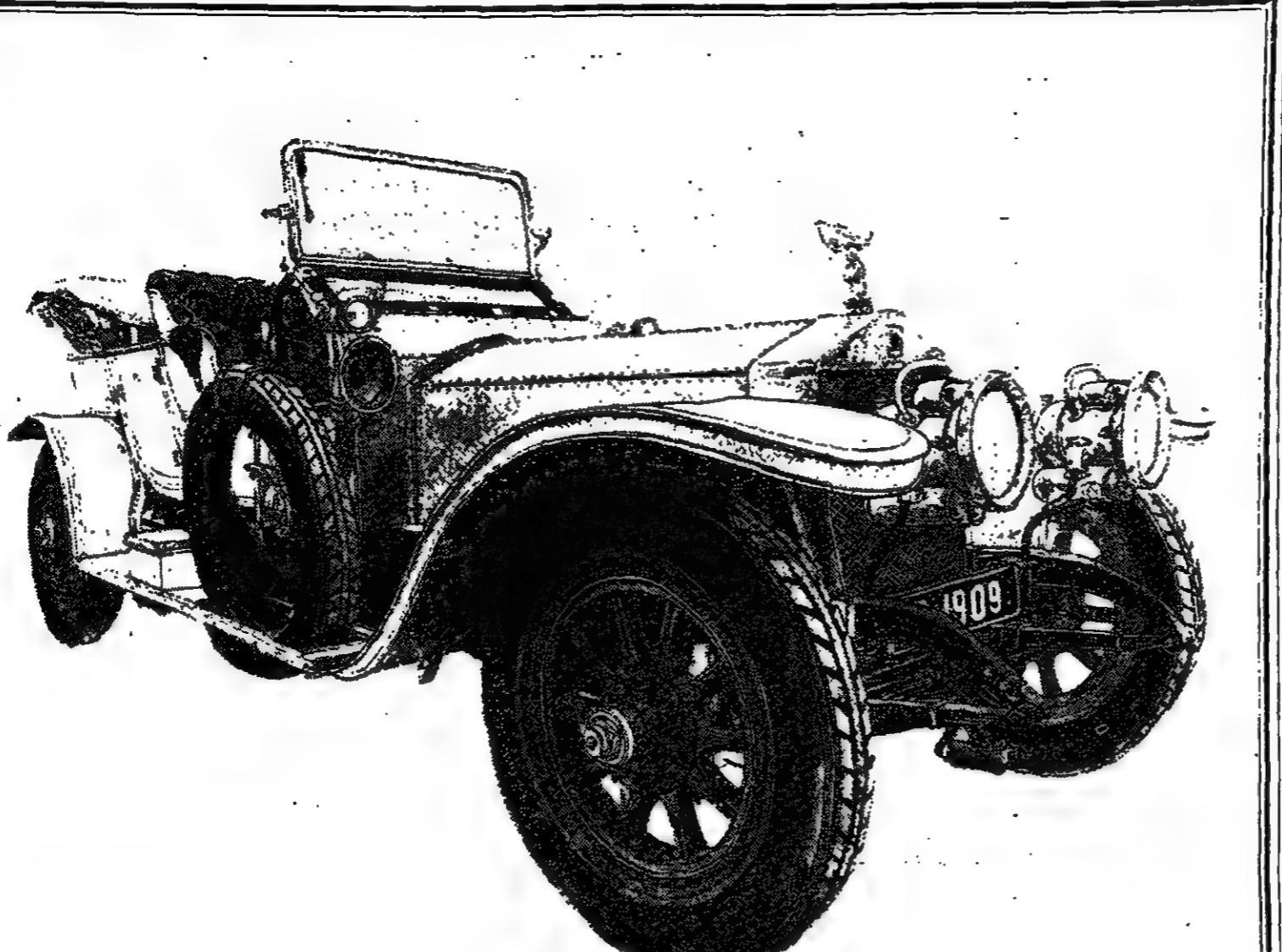
and there is less emphasis on usability than there has been for some years past. On the other hand, except at the lower end of the market, there is no demand at all for unrestored models. This is hardly surprising, since the rebuilding of a large vintage car could cost up to £30,000 on top of the purchase price. Even an enthusiast like Mr Worthington-Williams, who reckons his cars himself, must reckon on being out of pocket by the time he has

finished. In turn this has led to an explosion of the trade in replica vintage cars, new bodies to old designs on old chassis, and also to a proliferation of outright fakes. Mr Worthington-Williams quotes the example of a supposed 1910 Delahaye

which was bought for a large sum at a sale in Ireland, but which on close inspection turned out to be a modified Delahaye lorry from the 1930s with various other cannibalised parts.

The three factors which govern the values of old cars are beauty of line, quality of workmanship and rarity of model. They are also the criteria by which one might hope to predict which cars will be collected in the future. Mr Brooks nominates three models which he feels will be increasingly sought after: the Fiat 120 two-door coupe of 1971 to 1977, the Jaguar XJ 12C, which were out of production in October 1977, and the BMW 3.0 CSL and CSI, which were made from 1970 to 1975. In the first case, a liability to rust is likely to be offset by the beauty of the design and the fact that only 4,493 cars were produced.

Huon Mallalieu



A 1908 Rolls-Royce drawn by John Thirsk, one of three published by the artist in conjunction with the National Motor Museum at £3.90

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1931 Bentley 8-litre limousine

For further information telephone
Michael Worthington-Williams
Velindre (0559) 370024



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1965 BENTLEY H.J. Mulliner Continental SII 2-door saloon. £18,000.

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LIVERPOOL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE
COMMENCING SALARY AT LEAST £10,000 p.a. + CAR.

The Liverpool Council of Social Service is seeking a successor to the present Chief Executive, Mr. H.R. Poole OBE, who is retiring in May 1981 after 29 years service. The Council, which was founded in 1909 provides financial, administrative and information services for local voluntary organisations and community groups, administers local charitable trusts and actively promotes projects designed to meet the changing social needs of the community.

The Chief Executive, who is responsible to the Council's Executive Committee, leads a team of 20 professional and clerical staff and controls a budget of around £100,000 p.a.

Applications are invited from men and women aged between the mid 30's and early 50's, whose qualifications and experience demonstrate the levels of managerial skill, administrative ability and initiative needed to build on the Council's very considerable achievements of the past 70 years.

Whilst experience in local government or in voluntary charitable organisations would be of considerable interest, the Council would not wish to preclude applications from people with a record of achievement in other occupations.

If you are interested in this position, please write with brief details of your education and career to date to:—The Chairman, The Liverpool Council of Social Service, 14 Castle Street, Liverpool L2 0NQ. Your application will, of course, be dealt with on a confidential basis.

DIRECTOR OF MEDICINE

(circa £54,000 per annum plus fringe benefits)

Allied Medical Group and the Riyadh Al-Kharji Hospital Programme are building a team to develop the clinical and medical support services to the Riyadh Military Hospital, which opened in September 1979.

We are currently looking for a Director of Medicine, as an integral member of this team, who is prepared to make the professional commitment necessary to establish the hospital as a major tertiary care and teaching centre.

The individual selected will currently be occupying a Consultant or Honorary Consultant post in a teaching hospital, will have a national or international reputation and will have an established interest in Post Graduate Education.

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If you are interested, please write in confidence to:—Mr. John Wyn Owen, Allied Medical Group, 18 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DZ.

Allied Medical Group

INTERPRETATION GEOPHYSICIST

Kerr-McGee Oil (UK) Limited is extremely active in exploration and development programmes in the U.K. and overseas. We require a geophysicist to work in our London office which is responsible for all Kerr-McGee's oil and gas operations outside the U.S.A.

Applications for this post are invited from graduates with a minimum of 3 years interpretation experience, preference being given to those candidates having broad-based experience with another oil company. With the continued expansion of the company, a rewarding future awaits the right candidate, who can be assured of a highly competitive salary and attractive fringe benefits.

Please contact:

John Lander
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This appointment is viewed by CSE as one of the most important they have ever advertised, and only the most highly qualified will be considered. Future prospects within the company will depend upon results achieved and overall performance so past experience of top quality merchandising and total aviation knowledge is essential.

Please write with full particulars to:

Mr. H. Lamdin,
Sayers Butterworth,
Chartered Accountants,
62 Brock Street,
London W1Y 2DB.

GENERAL SALES MANAGER PIPER CORPAC AIRCRAFT

CSE, sole authorised distributor for the Piper 'Corpac' range of aircraft in the U.K., Ireland and East Africa, are seeking a General Manager for this division of their aviation interests. 'Corpac' signifies Piper's top line turbo-prop Corporate aircraft, and the person appointed will probably be based at CSE's Jet Centre situated at London/Stansfield Airport.

This appointment is viewed by CSE as one of the most important they have ever advertised, and only the most highly qualified will be considered. Future prospects within the company will depend upon results achieved and overall performance so past experience of top quality merchandising and total aviation knowledge is essential.

Replies, in confidence, should be addressed to: R. A. Smith, Managing Director, CSE Aviation Ltd., Oxford Airport, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1RA.

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*A Proposal to change the Company's name to SOVEREIGN OIL & GAS LTD. has been put to shareholders

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SECRETARIAL and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 18

NON-SECRETARIAL

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

An assistant is needed to work on a series of high quality illustrated national news.

The job will initially involve press-readings, picture research, writing news stories, some typesetting, and some general office work.

The person appointed will be expected to progress rapidly to become responsible for writing news stories, editing and rewriting of stories, and other copy, and assuming responsibility for progress of the news section.

Applicants should have a degree in a historical subject, and a good national standard, and at least one year's editorial experience.

In accordance with NUS scale Grade A.

Please apply to:

Karen Goldie-Morrison,
Natural History Books,
The Rainbird Publishing
Group,

36 Park Street,
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LEGAL NOTICES

NO. 001045 of 1980

In the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, the matter of the PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA POSTER GROUP LIMITED and in the matter of the COMPANY ACT, 1963.

NOTICE.

That the 19th of May 1980 was the date on which the application for the grant of a certificate of incorporation of a company, to be known as "THE CONFEDERATION OF REDUCTION OF THE CAPITAL OF THE COMPANY LIMITED" was filed with the Registrar of Companies on the 10th day of June 1980, and that the name of the company is to be registered on the 10th day of June 1980.

By Order of the Court.

O. S. COOPER

Registered Office
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London, EC1A 7DN.

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"**AND WE SAID unto them,
son of man, call these in Lord
mine. And I answered, in Lord
mine, thou knowest."**—Mark 3:7.

BIRTHS

ALBRECHT—On May 18th, at
Cuckfield Hospital, Edward
Clark, son of John and
Sue, daughter of John and
Barbara.

BARLOW—On 20th May, at
an unnamed hospital, Ben
and Joanne's second son, Ben
and Jennifer.

BARRETT—On 20th May, at
Bath Hospital, Alison and
John's son, Daniel.

CATHERINE—On 20th May,
to John and Barbara.

CLARKE—On May 17th, in
Brentwood, Essex, Daniel

CHARLES—On 20th May,
at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford
to Alan and Neelam, gift of a
son, Timothy, and a daughter,
Sarah.

DAVIES—On 20th May, at
the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford
to Alan and Neelam, gift of a
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EMMETT—On 20th May, at
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FRASER—On 20th May, at
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GRANT—On 20th May, at
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HARRIS—On 20th May, at
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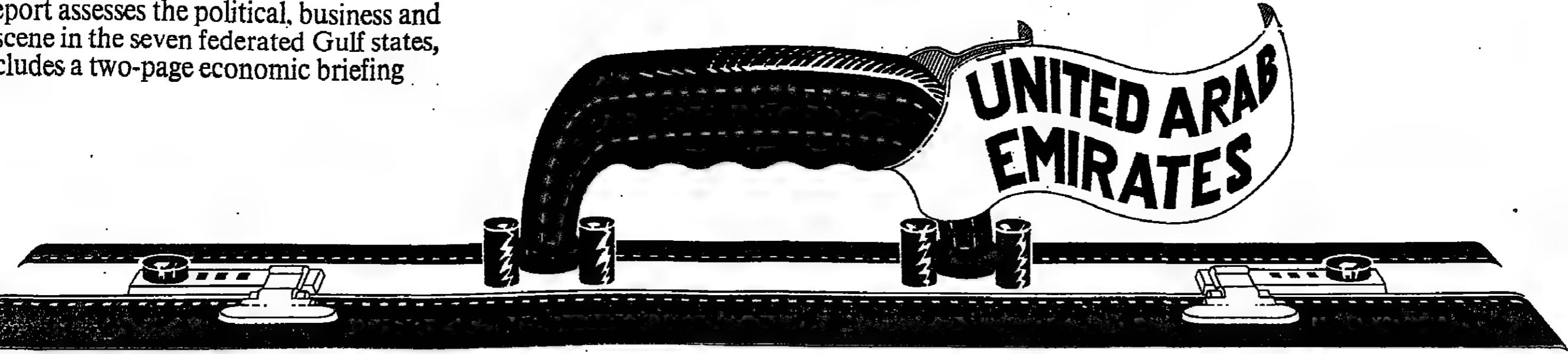
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Report assesses the political, business and scene in the seven federated Gulf states, includes a two-page economic briefing



West has lost friends in The Gulf

ace, it is possible to rupt the vital oil supplies to the West. Such beliefs, if held firmly enough, can translate themselves into an introspective state into a form of foreign policy, and this is what has happened in recent years in the UAE where minor border disputes have led to more public discussion than major world events.

The invasion of Afghanistan served to enforce this point of view and consequently led the West to believe that its links with the UAE were thereby strengthened. To an extent this is true, but there is an additional element to the Russian invasion which is less frequently appreciated. British forces often tend to overshadow events of less sound and fury, even though, in the long term, the latter may prove of more moment.

The Soviet forces which rolled across the border at Christmas were not simply, in the UAE's view, bringing the Russians a step nearer the Gulf. They were also attacking the fabric of Islam, a religious concept which the West finds difficult to understand.

After all, Afghanistan is not part of the Arab nation, and neither is Iran, where the British, regular visitors to it, along with the luxuries of the Middle East. And in the UAE most of the locally-born population is Sunni, not Shia. Muslim as in the case of Iran.

These arguments may seem trivial, but they are in reality seeking to sound precise and forceful when expounded inside an with the Middle East by

embassy, but they are clearly not accepted by the people themselves. Whatever the West such promises may be seen as part of an international hardening of Islam still surrounds geographical, political and, to an extent, sectarian barriers.

In the case of the UAE, such feelings are evident, but not to the extent that they might be expected, per se, to reshape attitudes.

The Gulf. Some powerful catalyst is needed, more powerful even than the swing offence which the ATV film *Death of a Princess* caused to the ruling house of Saudi Arabia.

British businessmen may have trembled at the economic consequences of the film within Saudi, but in the UAE there has been only one effect—video cassettes of the film, pirated from Britain, are in great demand.

The public utterances of the UAE sheikhs have been few and they have kept their peace with the Saudis by assuring them privately that they too found the film offensive to Islam, though the idea of a princess being executed in similar circumstances in the UAE is unthinkable.

In the event, the catalyst which has combined with this muted respect for Islam to become a real form of political debate came from India and Sri Lanka. The natives are outnumbered in the professions where most positions are taken by English staff.

Its precursors were President Carter's public statements that America would protect its vital oil links

resident, the future is secured economically by the such obvious consequences

federation's oil income, but are unlikely to stem from the structure of power in recent events.

From a purely partisan point of view, the past few months, perhaps surprisingly, have seen nothing to damage the close relationship which exists between the UAE and the many British concerns and employees who make their living in the area, a relationship forged in the days of the Trucial States.

These suspicions of the West were seemingly confirmed by President Carter's abortive mission to rescue the hostages in Tehran. To the West the move may appear to be the result of a frustrated administration which has exhausted all other avenues of action. For many rulers along The Gulf, it has reduced American standing to that of the Russians.

The semantic difference between what the Americans describe as a force of "intervention" and the Russian "invasion" of Afghanistan does not translate itself into Arabic. To the Arabs, they are both *Tadakhl* and receive equal condemnation.

This is not to say that the aftermath of the American venture into Iran will be a serious destabilization of the whole of the Gulf region.

The riot police in Dubai, the second most important UAE state after Abu Dhabi, may have been drilling noisily on the night of the rescue attempt to discourage protest from the substantial local Iranian population, but

ways has been the linchpin of the federation.

The two men this year Commander in Chief are all have been working together in Abu Dhabi, the Minister tactfully. Considering that of Defence and his headquarters are in Dubai. The fought over border disputes Minister is Shaikh Mohammed, son of the Ruler of Dubai, who takes

trading outside the

area, this is a sign that he takes his responsibilities seriously and known as a skilful

and natural pilot.

From the federal viewpoint it is no bad thing to have the Ministry of

Defence in Dubai near the geographical centre of the UAE; the Ministry of Agriculture, for example, was

years ago, but when two culture is there, too. Nor is it to be wondered that everything in the point it is not exactly have been drawn together, but they do help to discourage disunity. Oil revenue-sharing, defence, possible subversion, and a

loosening of the feudal system to give more room for criticism and public debate are all being discussed, though mainly in private.

There will not be great changes overnight, but there may be slow changes.

Already one change has taken place which, however at any rate, has eased the traditional rivalry between Abu Dhabi and Dubai, the two principal

brigades in the Northern Emirates; while in Dubai

there has been one brigades and an air wing. The forces in Dubai still wear the same uniform as the others; but

the police there, also now

detached from a federal \$14,000m and \$15,000m over command, do not wear a year—from its oil. Production has been between

1,300,000 and 1,500,000 barrels a day, sold at nearly \$30 a barrel. This is a huge weight of money among the

continued on page III

Jerome Caminada reports on the state of the federation

Moving towards unity

The federation known as

the United Arab Emirates is now in its ninth year. It has survived better than some other federations round the world, but whereas in the first few years internal strains were the main danger, now powerful outside events are the challenge.

Potential dangers from abroad, such as fears of Russian interference, have not yet knit the seven emirates which form the federation completely together, but they do help to discourage disunity. Oil revenue-sharing, defence, possible subversion, and a

loosening of the feudal system to give more room for criticism and public debate are all being discussed, though mainly in private.

There will not be great changes overnight, but there may be slow changes.

Already one change has taken place which, however at any rate, has eased the traditional rivalry between Abu Dhabi and Dubai, the two principal

brigades in the Northern Emirates; while in Dubai

there has been one brigades and an air wing. The forces in Dubai still wear the same uniform as the others; but

the police there, also now

detached from a federal \$14,000m and \$15,000m over

command, do not wear a year—from its oil. Production has been between

1,300,000 and 1,500,000 barrels a day, sold at nearly \$30 a barrel. This is a huge weight of money among the

continued on page III

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When the wells run dry

The UAE imported more Sharjah to Ras al Khaimah stations and civic amenities. In 1979 it is clear that the oil wealth, concentrated largely in the hands of Abu Dhabi and Dubai, has yet to penetrate through to the poorer and much waste. However, the policy has its defenders. An economist at the National Bank of Abu Dhabi says: "Although it is clear now that too many airports and hotels have been built for a small country, think what they would cost at today's prices."

The question uppermost in the mind of UAE businessmen and their customers is whether the economy is about to pick up. While Abu Dhabi has continued to be the focus for continuing government spending there has been little elsewhere since the money began to dry up in Dubai and Sharjah in mid-1977. M. Hugo de Clercq, who is a representative for Banque de Bruxelles Lambert of Belgium, reflects a feeling of the Dubai expatriate business community when he says: "Although I am based in Dubai, most of my customers are outside the emirate. I want to serve a population of less than one million at least of each week in Abu Dhabi—if only I had the time."

If this extra disbursement comes about, it will go a long way towards meeting the demands of the northern emirates for a greater share of development finance. The UAE already suffers from having a bloated bureaucracy, with 33,601 civil servants. Each emirate has a civil service greater than its population. The last count in February, and there are some fears that extra federal funds will

Continued on

Oil

Dirhams damaged by the dollar

Most of the United Arab Emirates' population of 891,000 have never seen an oil well. Yet petrol, as it is called since there is no sound in Arabic, is as emotive an issue as coal in south Yorkshire or steel in Wales.

This was shown recently when demonstrations erupted after moves to increase petrol prices in Dubai and the northern emirates. Despite being Opec's fourth largest producer with an output of 1,800,000 barrels a day (b/d) the UAE is vulnerable when it comes to refined products made from crude oil. Of the seven emirates only Abu Dhabi has its own refinery, and the 15,000 b/d plant at Umm al Nar island outside the capital provides only 40 per cent of Abu Dhabi's needs.

The demonstrators called for the nationalization of the foreign oil companies (BP, Caltex and Shell) which run the garages in the northern emirates. The Government acted quickly by introducing a subsidy which effectively cut the pump prices, now 3.30 dirhams a gallon (40p), to close to the 1979 levels, and for the time being the question of nationalization has been shelved.

With an oil revenue of about \$15,000m expected in 1980 it is hard to see how anyone could be dissatisfied. Yet in the suks and juice houses of Abu Dhabi and Dubai citizens and merchants grumble about the way they feel their country's revenue is damaged by the dollar. "Our currency should be strong since it is an oil currency", a leading Dubai merchant who advises a British bank, said, "yet I believe it is undervalued by at least 7.5 per cent."

Over the bubble pipes locals are quick to point out that what is important to the economy of an emirate is oil revenues, not federal subsidies from Abu Dhabi or handouts from Dubai and other sources. In Ras al Khaimah last December when news spread of the imminent arrival of a large oil company (Gulf Oil) to start a drilling programme, house rents shot up. An expatriate said: "In the end it turned out that only three geologists arrived, and that put an end to the rent speculation".

Although the UAE belongs to Opec, only Abu Dhabi of the three oil-producing emirates follows Opec decisions on pricing its crude oil. Dubai and Sharjah fix their own prices. In mid-1979 Dubai had recourse to the spot market to sell considerable quantities of its production of about 334,000 barrels a day—a practice not followed by Abu Dhabi.

Dubai though scarcely one of the world's large producers exports more crude oil than neighbouring Oman, and the revenue is crucial to understanding the economic plans of the Ruler, Shaikh Rashid, for his emirate. The UAE's oil story really begins and ends in Abu Dhabi, which has more than 85 per cent of the national production, and most of the proved reserves of 32,400 million barrels.

The reserves figure is thought to be on the conservative side, as the UAE Oil Minister, Mr Manan bin Said al Otaibah, says that actual reserves are larger than any previously published figure. Speaking rhetorically, perhaps, he has said that the UAE would produce "The Gulf's last barrel of oil". What he was referring to was the UAE's policy of conservation, and its determination to produce only as much as is needed to meet revenue requirements of the state and its ruling families.

The oil ministry at this stage in the development of the federation is more concerned with external policy and Opec affairs. Abu Dhabi's oil policy is determined by the Abu Dhabi Executive Council (emirate cabinet) headed by the Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler, Shaikh Khalifa, through the state holding company, the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company.

ADNOC is the biggest force in UAE business. It has since its formation in 1971 gradually tightened its grip on the onshore and offshore oil operations through its administration of the 50 per cent government stake in ADCO, formerly the Abu Dhabi Petroleum Company, and ADMA-OPCO, formerly Abu Dhabi Marine Areas.

These companies involve as minority equity partners British Petroleum (BP), Compagnie Francaise des Pétroles (CFP), Shell and the Japan Oil Development Company, which have the larger shares, and Mobil, Exxon and the Gulbenkian interest Partex which have smaller stakes.

In an interview on March 17 he said: "Take the Umm al Nair field which BP operated for ADMA. In 1974 they were saying it could produce 695,000 barrels a day; two years later they said 395,000 barrels. Finally, when ADNOC finished its studies, they agreed with us that the operational reasonable level should not exceed 250,000 barrels."

BP was at one time considered the strongest of the foreign partners have now western partners in Abu Dhabi converted to ADNOC's oil affairs, but that

way of thinking. Abu Dhabi

is one of the few Opec producers where the partners are still allowed to take equity crude, although ADNOC is committed to reducing these entitlements.

At the moment two thirds of Abu Dhabi's production of about 1,400,000 barrels a day comes from the onshore oil fields, and is exported from the Jebel Dhanna loading terminal 100 miles west of Abu Dhabi. The most im-

portant production area by

mid-1980 will be offshore at the Upper Zakum field, where CFP is the operator and which is ex-

pected to be producing 500,000 barrels by 1986.

The Upper Zakum development will be the costliest in the lower Gulf, amounting to \$4,000m. ADNOC has taken the Japanese company JOCO as a minority partner in the field; but for

offering reasons, possibly

they declined to join.

Everywhere would like to have Abu Dhabi's oil power. In Dubai there is a modest programme of ex-

pansion on shore, where

two American companies

have recently started drilling, and

a new concession has been

awarded to Atlantic Richfield of the United States.

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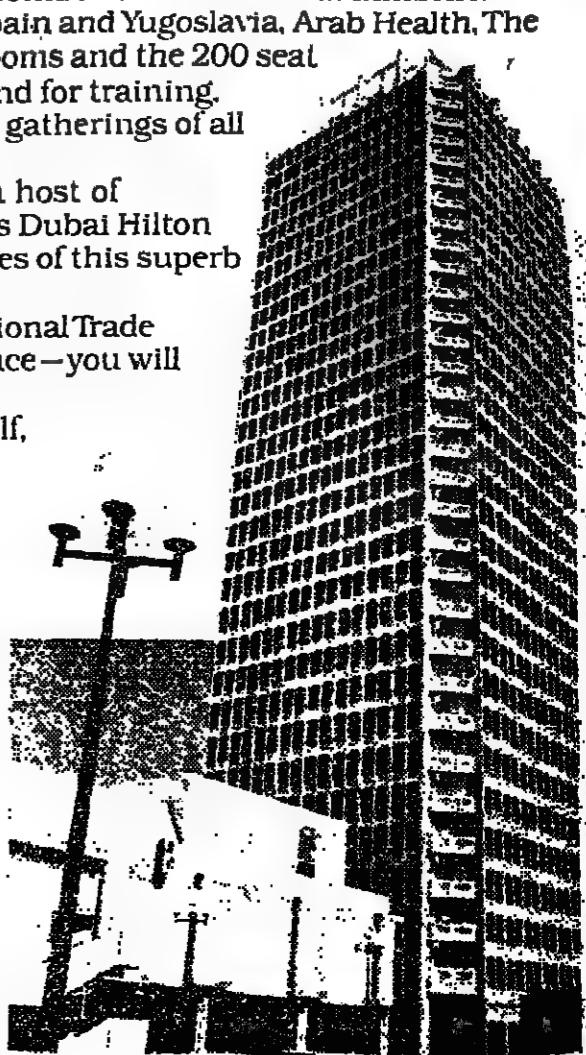
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Beyond Oil

Dubai's 'Industrial Revolution' points the way

It is no accident that Dubai is leading the way in a policy of alternative development to oil.

Dubai is well placed to do this since it was a thriving commercial centre long before the discovery of oil. The home of prosperous merchants, Dubai alone, was able to surmount the decline and disappearance of the pearl industry when it was faced with Japanese cultured pearls in the thirties. The Dubai merchants, whether they were dealing in pearls or gold, were a thriving community even at a much earlier date, respected right round the Gulf and as far afield as India.

Oil, in any case, has not engulfed the economy as

elsewhere in the Middle East. H.H. Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Deputy President and Prime Minister of the U.A.E. and Ruler of Dubai saw from the outset that oil would not last forever, and, as a constant preoccupation, has considered alternative routes for the economy. Keeping oil in the ground is one solution, but such static thinking has little appeal in Dubai. There were fresh generations to be considered with expectations far different from those that had obtained in the past. The country needed a diversified, economic base and this, it

was clear, would have to be created. Dubai has traditionally looked to trade and to the sea. These, therefore had to be the point of departure of industrial expansion. First, there would have to be a deep water port of huge capacity, the relevant industries that could make as much use as possible of raw materials that existed locally or could be economically brought in. From these and other simple expedients, concepts of the industrial future began to arise. The great Jebel Ali project was born.

out of the virgin sand – a year ahead of schedule

May 20, 1979, at Quay 10, Jebel Ali, the Nichigaku Maru began

loading cement clinker. To the

and the crew of the Japanese

this was mere routine, but for

us and much of the business

it was historic.

Jebel Ali Port, deep-water har-

bor and centerpiece of the multi-

million dollar Jebel Ali project, was

moreover, in operation, a

year ahead of schedule. This was

in business circles from New

Tokyo, as powerful confi-

ence of the vision behind what

was called: 'the world's

ambitious industrial under-

take

the fact that Dubai's indus-

trialisation is taking place from the

ground upwards, gives it many

characteristics. Chief among

is that theory and practice

are put together here as no-

where else. A blank sheet of paper

challenge and excitement,

geography, topography, selection of

materials, choice of what is to

be produced, the interrelation of

the chain continues: raw materials from near at hand being brought into the industrial mix and joining others from sources half across the world. What results are re-exported in the form of finished products so that a complex web of commerce and industry is created with Jebel Ali at its centre.

Before, during – and after oil. Dubai

Dubai is known to have existed as a fishing and pearlling community for hundreds of years. From the beginning its geographical

seems to have worked to its advantage. We already see the

of modern Dubai emerging around the turn of the century when

traders from the Persian port of Linsgh moved to Dubai to avoid its

customs duties. Others followed, usually seeking to avoid

the pressures and the like, in their own countries, attracted by the

ideal and progressive trading policies of the Ruler at the time.

I began to develop as the major commercial centre of the Gulf and

an established part of the sea routes to India and the Far East.

Dubai today, a place of glittering buildings and roads that sweep

through tunnels and over bridges nevertheless, still bears

marks of its mercantile past: the graceful wind towers, for example,

acts of a settled and prosperous community which made Dubai

us, for shrewd and honest trading long before there was any

oil.

And when oil did come, it was not in all-obliterating quantities,

today, Dubai does not claim to be more than sixth in oil-ex-

porting leagues of the Gulf. Viewed from Dubai, therefore, oil has never

seen as such a huge bonanza. It is true to say that it has fitted into a

and prudent housekeeping as a welcome addition, but without

giving that housekeeping out of all recognition.

Even if there had been no oil, it is perfectly possible that the indus-

try rising out of the desert at Jebel Ali, (though perhaps in a

fixed form) would have arisen anyway.

The merchants and administrators of Dubai have always found the

to build a sound economy whether this was pearls, shipping or

The world as oyster

If you look closely at what is happening in Dubai the term 'Middle East' can be seen in a new and exciting context. Dubai is truly in the middle-of-the-middle of a world where eastern workforces interconnect with western investment, where raw materials from - say Australia, are fed into a chain of production that uses the expertise of five nations and the machinery of ten more.

An aluminium smelter, for example, could be established almost anywhere, regardless of climatic conditions, topography, population or any of a hundred variables, provided certain vital conditions are satisfied. Briefly,

these amount to: energy, supply of raw materials, an effective workforce, means to export the finished product, business confidence producing investment, a favourable commercial climate where tariffs, etc. do not constitute an obstacle, technical expertise and stable conditions in general. Dubai, sitting at the crossroads of the world, fulfills all these demands to perfection.

The business planner of Dubai have taken the world of instant communications and interlocking economies as it exists and - there is no better way of expressing it - made that world their oyster!

There is no doubt that much of the single-minded concentration on the task in hand at Jebel Ali has

Sheikh Rashid is not a lover of committees, making decisions in a plain and practical way as they are needed. Mention his name at Jebel Ali and you will be left in no doubt that, whatever else it may be, this kind of management is popular with the men on the spot.

Sheikh Rashid takes a detailed

interest in most of what goes on. He himself commissioned the building of a slipway with ultra modern lifting gear, not far from the centre of Dubai. This is something much needed in the Gulf which is crowded with small-tonnage shipping.

The slipway brings virtual automation to ship repair and hull inspection - tasks performed up to now by old fashioned and laborious methods. The potential savings in time and money for ship owners are great and they have responded by

filling the slipway from the word go.

Sheikh Rashid makes no secret of his pleasure at the success of the venture, and because it has fulfilled

As with most of his policies, the Ruler's concept of the Dubai-Jebel Ali package is clear-cut. A base for free enterprise, a strong currency, minimal government regulations, no foreign exchange controls and only nominal tariffs. And it goes a

lot further than that: no income tax, no capital gains tax, no estate tax, low labour costs and no unions!

It is a unique and inviting prospect stretching into the next century. But is there, perhaps, a tinge of regret for a way of life that is irretrievably past?

A young Dubai graduate comments on this briskly, quoting with considerable aplomb: 'The past is a foreign country. They do things differently there.'

The huge reflecting disc at the top of the hill that is the 'Jebel Ali' gives, at a glance, the clue to what is going on here. Cocked like a huge ear to its satellite partner thousands of miles out in space, it symbolises the importance

of communications in every part of the undertaking. Inaugurated in 1975, the earth station took the Emirates into the space age. A decade ago there were no more than a handful of calls a day. Now it's normal if there are three thousand

For space age executives, a grass golf course in the desert

Very little at Jebel Ali has been left unconsidered. From the start it was decided that there should be a hotel, as part of the industrial complex, that would provide luxury living and an opportunity for busy executives to relax on an unprecedented scale. This is the Hotel Jebel Ali. Now nearing completion, it will have a range of facilities that, in a single hotel, may well be unmatched anywhere in the world. Among major attractions there will be a golf course with real grass - the one and only in all Arabia. Three swimming pools linked but divided, will include a children's pool, one for adults, and a high dive pool. And when you are tired of these you can leave them for the pell-mell, turquoise-blue sea.

There is to be a yacht marina with shore arrangements that would look good in Cannes or Monte Carlo. And a list of aquatic activities which enthusiasts would find hard to fault.

Businessmen, whether they like it or not, have time to fill between meetings and appointments. The Jebel Ali Hotel is dedicated to this 'filling' as pleasurable - and as healthily as possible.

A brand of leadership the business world accepts

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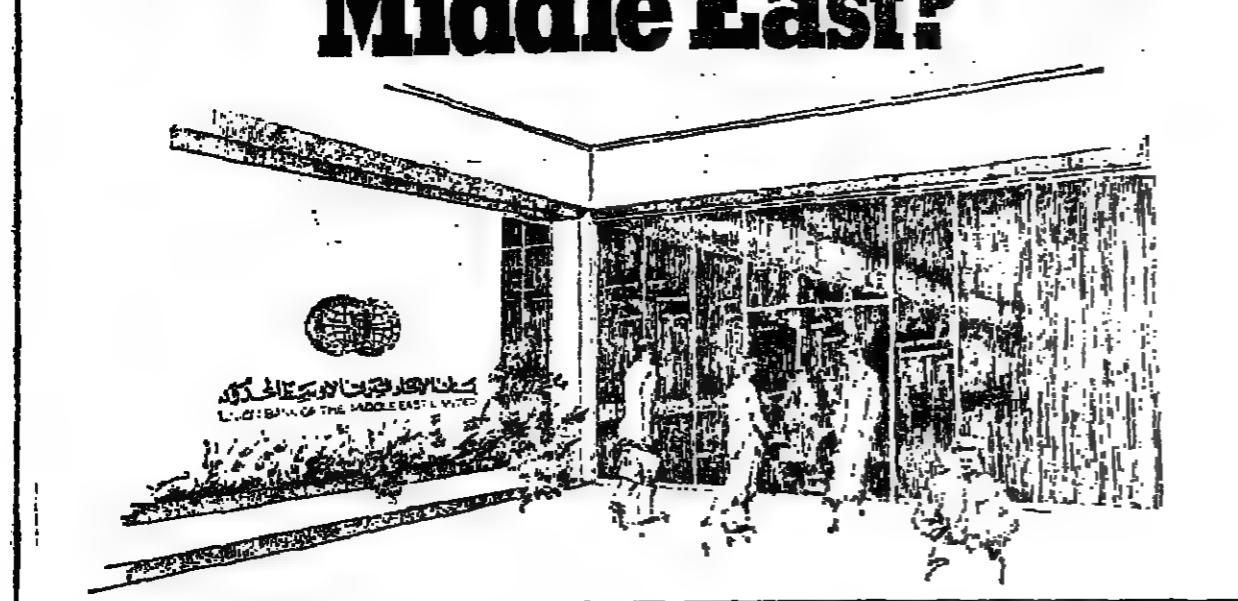
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P.O. Box 49, Dubai—U.A.E. Tel: 470335

Bristow Helicopters

P.O. Box 3288—Dubai—U.A.E. Tel: 221707
Extensive Real Estate Holdings in the Emirates.

FACTS AND FIGURES

For the traveller

How to get there

Direct and frequent flights are operated by British Airways and Gulf Air from London to Abu Dhabi and Dubai. Each of these emirates has an international airport, situated nine and two-and-a-half miles from the respective town centres. Services to both places are provided by several other airlines, but they usually involve a transfer at an intermediate airport.

International airports are also operational at Sharjah and Ras al Khaimah, but flights to them are less plentiful than those to the two largest emirates. Domestic flights within the UAE and in the region generally are provided by Gulf Air, which has its headquarters at Bahrain.

Business visitors can usually obtain a visa in about 24 hours, but they will need a letter in triplicate from their company. United Kingdom citizens carrying passports which have the endorsement "holder has the right of abode" do not need to obtain a visa. They are usually given permission to stay a month on entry, and this can be extended on application for another two months. Those whose passports show evidence of a previous or intended visit to Israel may require a new passport to enter the UAE.

Because entry regulations are liable to change at short notice all those intending to visit the emirates are strongly advised to check the latest position with the UAE embassy in London before leaving.

Travel documents

Generally speaking, visas are needed to enter the United Arab Emirates. These are obtainable from the embassy's consular section in London, on completion of three application forms and the submission of passport, three passport photographs

and the appropriate fee. It is necessary to apply for multi-entry visas if, for example, the visitor intends to fly from Dubai to Abu Dhabi. Such flights are regarded as international, and although the UAE authorities are responsible for all immigration matters, the practice in each emirate can vary.

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Industry and politics

Government

UAE's constitution's highest is the Supreme Council, which consists of the rulers of the seven states. Its main tasks are general policy, Federal Acts, and resident and vice. The consent of at least four members, including the ruler of Abu Dhabi, is required for important decisions.

Decisions are drawn up by the Council. This body's leader is appointed by the ruler, after consulting his colleagues in the Supreme Council. The ruler appoints the prime minister on the recommendation of the prime minister.

National Council assembly, where necessary, amend Bills submitted by the Council of the ruler of each emirate. The ruler of each emirate appoints a committee to serve on this committee, choosing his most prominent member. Abu Dhabi each has eight members: Sharjah and Ajman appoint six, the remaining 12 are shared equally by the other emirates.

Minister: Shaikh Said al Maktoum. Ministers: Shaikhs Mohammed and Rasheed. Agriculture and Irrigation: Dr. M. al Raghibi. Communications: Dr. M. al Mulla. Defense: Shaikh I. bin Rashid. Economy and Finance: Shaikh Sultan al Mualla. Education and Training: Dr. M. al Sehaimi. Finance and Investment: Dr. M. al Hamdan bin J. al Maktoum. Information and Media: Dr. M. al Khashim.

Interior Minister: Shaikh Mubarak bin Mohammed. Minister of Health: Hamad Abdul Rahman al Mafra. Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs: Mohamed Abdul Rahman al Bakr. Minister of Labour and Social Affairs: Saif al Jarwan. Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources: Dr. Mana Said al Oraibah. Minister of Planning: Said Ghobash. Minister of Public Works and Housing: Mohammed Khalifa al Kindi. Minister of Water and Electricity: Humaid Nasser al Owais. Minister of State: Shaikh Ahmed Sultan al Qasimi. Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs: Saif al Ghais. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs: Rashid Abdulla. Minister of State for Internal Affairs: Hamouda bin Ali. Minister of State for Supreme Council Affairs: Shaikh Abdul Aziz bin Humaid al Qassimi.

Embassies

UAE Embassy in London: 30 Prince's Gate SW7 1PT. Telephone 01-581 1281.

Ambassador: Said Mohamad al-Mahdi al-Tajir.

Minister: Mirza Hussain Hasan al-Sayegh.

Counsellor: Consular Affairs: Nabil Hijazi.

First Secretary: Hussein Saleh Hussein (Finance and Administration); Saif al-Oteiba (Consular Affairs); and Abdul Aziz Merafah (Commercial Affairs).

British Embassy in Abu Dhabi: PO Box 248, Abu Dhabi, UAE. Telephone 26600. Ambassador: David A. Roberts.

First Secretary, Head of Chancery and Consul: D. R. MacLennan.

First Secretary: W. C. Hodkinson (Commercial); D. R. Spedding and R. L. Owen.

British Consulate in Dubai: PO Box 65, Dubai, UAE. Telephone 431070.

Consul-General and Counsellor: D. K. Haskell.

First Secretary (Commercial); and Consul: G. M. Gowland.

Second Secretary: B. Hananah (Commercial); R. M. Publicover and R. R. D. Daffey (and Vice-Consul).

The economy

The oil sector provides almost three quarters of the UAE's gross domestic product. Of the seven states, Abu Dhabi produces about four fifths of the oil and Dubai much of the rest.

Total oil revenues for 1979 are estimated at \$12.500m compared with \$8.600m in 1978 and \$9.100m in 1977 (at roughly the same volume of sales as in 1979) reflecting the massive price increase imposed last year.

A considerable rise in capital spending should take place in the current financial year, according to the draft federal budget announced in December by Shaikh Rashid, Prime Minister of the UAE and the Ruler of Dubai.

The draft budget provides for total expenditure of 11.250m dirhams (\$2.960m), against 9.700m dirhams (\$2.550m) in 1979. Within this figure, capital spending in the latest budget is given as 1.500m dirhams (\$394m) from 1.100m dirhams (\$290m) in 1979.

Recurrent expenditure is to rise to 8.900m dirhams (\$2.340m) from the previous 7.800m dirhams (\$2.050m).

The federation has one of the highest per capita incomes in the world at an estimated \$16,000 in 1978.

Banking

More than 50 banks operate in the UAE, but business is dominated by the National Bank of Abu Dhabi, Bank of Credit and Commerce International, and Khaliji Commercial Bank.

The Offshore Banking Unit (OBU), established in 1976, has five licences: American Express International Banking Corp., Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank, Banca Commerciale Italiana, Bank of Nova Scotia, and Banco Urquiza.

Aluminium

The Dubai aluminium smelter is a \$1.400m project nearing completion at Jibal Al. It is a smelter and desalination (fresh water making) plant combined.

Dubai Aluminium (Dubai), which controls the smelter, is owned 80 per cent by the Dubai Government and 20 per cent by a Grand Cayman company, Alusmeiter Holdings.

Oil and gas
It was in 1960 that oil deposits were discovered in the region which now forms the UAE. The initial find, west of Abu Dhabi city, was followed by discoveries in Dubai and offshore in The Gulf. Later, Sharjah became an oil producer and, in 1978, Ras al Khaymah.

The UAE ranks in eighth position in the production league of Opec's 13 member countries with an output of nearly 100 million barrels a year.

Known reserves in the emirates are estimated to be sufficient for at least 30 to 40 years at current rates of production.

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Emirati citizens and expatriates from many countries have teamed together to develop the federation. The work of four of them—a leading businessman, a British ex-ambassador, a doctor, and an oil expert—is examined here

Ears in the right place

Mr al Gurg, chairman of Grindlays, speaks of imperturbable confidence in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Group as examples of Arab business. Mr al Gurg was born in Dubai in 1925, and has lived in the Gulf. He has all his life there. He is thus a citizen of the UAE—the only natural-born Arabs are citizens. His forefathers were pearl merchants.

The young Mr al Gurg was sent to a Koranic school built on the sand and would have learnt no English at all if it had not been for an Indian doctor. The doctor found time to teach the language at a small school.

Thirty-five years ago Mr al Gurg joined the British Bank of the Middle East (now part of the Hongkong Bank) as a clerk. This became his springboard. He was noticed by his managers, and in 1956 the bank arranged for him to go to England for four months to "polish up my English", as he puts it.

His interests which he has in one way or another have made a formidable list of companies, electric, furniture, and other household building and chemicals, explosives, and aircraft, and helicopter.

Mr al Gurg is not apprehensive about possible political disturbances in the

He has been polishing it area. The locally-born Arabs, he says, are not vicious, and the foreigners frequent visits to London, which he has a flat in the Knightsbridge area.

It was in the 1960s, when oil began to flow in the area, that Mr al Gurg saw his opportunities. He left the bank as a full-time employee to establish an improvement in filtering agencies, but he did not sever all connexion with the bank. He remains now its "local representative".

He has a son, a trouble shooter, who attends board meetings and gives political and economic advice.

Apart from his business connections, his qualification for being a trouble shooter is that he has the ear of the Ruler of Dubai, Shaikh Rashid bin Said al-Maktoum, and of the other rulers in the UAE. The federation runs on a feudal basis, and to have the ear of the rulers, as well as to have one's own ear to the ground, is a recipe for success.

Mr al Gurg is not apprehensive about possible political disturbances in the

Jerome Caminada

no precise in the stability of Western Europe which has since the end of the World War might minutes' thought of a Arab doctor who in his life has made a fresh start in the East, because of ill there after that

him Selim Ayoub, where born, Abu Dhabi, and is now in has had to launch tactics there, and is so offer him assassination by a in, when already of 60.

nor a political wife, over the Ayoub has found a local volcano after upring round him, a forgive, there quietly prays will not happen the Arab area now.

1915 at Jaffa, Dr the son of a custer, who in 1921 of the first Arab under the British to try to stop the arms by Zionists. He failed.

Ibrahim went to can University in Lebanon, and gra-

uated as a doctor of medicine in 1943. He then returned to Palestine for five years of medical work, before marrying in 1948 a fellow Christian Arab from Damascus, Liliiane Gelat. That was the year the mandate ended and Israel was born amid fighting. When Dr Ayoub returned with his bride from a honeymoon in Cairo, he found his home area occupied and himself a refugee—one of the hundreds of thousands.

While his wife temporarily rejoined her family in Damascus, Dr Ayoub travelled to Abu Dhabi, then a tiny habitation on The Gulf whose inhabitants made a living from pearling and diving trade. The young doctor set up a clinic under a tent on the sand, and one of his patients was the Ruler of Abu Dhabi at this time, Shaikh Shakhbut.

After a year Dr Ayoub went to Lebanon to be consultant at the Iraq Petroleum Company's hospital at Tripoli. For eight years he was spared disturbances, but its aftermath cut off the flow of patients from The Gulf and elsewhere, and the doctor decided to move to Beirut to practise there.

No sooner was he beginning to establish himself, money required. Then he

J.C.

than, the 1958 civil war in Lebanon imposed for a as a "traitor"; but the Palestine Liberation Organization, which had been policing the area, gave him four bodyguards who for two weeks accompanied him everywhere.

After all this, the firm in Dubai suggested that it was high time he moved there permanently, which at last he did. A rather grandiose scheme for building a large new clinic on empty ground away from the town centre fizzled out, and he almost abandoned his plane. His wife persuaded him to persevere, and with loans from the banks he converted a flat into a well-equipped centre where he now practises, with a partner.

Perhaps he regretted this decision, when ultimately turmoil and slaughter returned to Lebanon in the mid-1970s. He had become consultant to an American firm in Dubai, and during one of his visits to The Gulf—while it was still possible, although risky, to take flights from Beirut—his clinic in Beirut was first looted, and then burnt.

When his wife, and later he himself, after he had returned, tried to find the reason for this, there was talk of protection. Then he

J.C.

Now this resourceful Palestinian is establishing himself yet again, in his sixtieth year. Like his fellow Palestinians, he has no homeland, so it is in The Gulf that the remainder of his career seems to lie.

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Education

Teaching system full, free and for all

Thirty years ago there were no schools in any of the seven shaikhdoms which now form the United Arab Emirates. The only form of regular teaching was instruction in the Koran given to groups of boys.

Today there is a full, free educational system available to all, and culminating in the university which has more than 1,700 students. Only a very small number of children in remote areas do not attend full-time school in the primary grade from the ages of six to twelve.

It is a remarkable achievement, not only made possible but also made necessary by the oil wealth of the federation.

In considering the lack of educational facilities in the early 1950s the conditions then prevailing must be borne in mind: small, scattered communities where the way of life had remained almost unchanged for centuries. Now the development of the oil industry has vastly increased the population by bringing in expatriate work-

ers from many parts of the world; and has introduced new dangers and alien ways of thought, and utterly changed the face of life at least in the cities.

When the Trucial States Council was set up in 1952 the first concerted effort was made to introduce education in the modern sense. A school for 450 boys opened in Sharjah the following year. Last year, in Sharjah, the ruler turned his palace into an elementary school.

Girls' education then came into the picture. By 1964 there were 31 schools apart from those in Abu Dhabi, and 12 of the 31 were for girls, with an attendance of more than 2,000. Schoolboys at that time numbered almost 5,000.

In 1971 education was made compulsory. During that academic year there were 31,342 pupils in the schools and another 1,500 in higher education or technical training. From then on the development and expenditure have increased steadily

for more than six years, and the revisions in curricula for four years.

As elsewhere in Arabia, the basic education structure is six years of primary education for ages six to 12

(this is the part which is compulsory in the UAE), followed by three years in a preparatory school, with a further three years of secondary education in centres in all seven emirates. They number more than 100,000, about three quarters for men and one quarter for women. They are attended by about 10,000 people.

At the other end of the academic scale is the UAE University which opened in 1977 with 500 students. During the present academic year the number is 1,768, of whom 366 are expatriates. About one third of the students are women, though kindergarten and primary grades the balance in numbers between boys and girls is almost equal.

The university at present has colleges for arts, science, education, politics and administration, and law and Sharia (Islamic teaching). Within a year engineering will be added, and a medical faculty is planned.

This university is the UAE's special pride and joy, and no money is spared. All students receive full board, transportation, books and equipment, plus a grant of 500 dirhams a month.

In addition 20 per cent of the country's secondary school-leavers are sent, at government expense, to study at foreign universities, where about 130 graduated last year. In 1978 40 dirhams was allocated for buying a building as hostels for girl students in Cairo, and this is now in use.

Penelope Turing

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مكتبة من الأصل

Health

Local clinics centres of preventive medicine

On the broad dual carriage-way which links the capital cities of Abu Dhabi and Dubai there are few signs of human life apart from the traffic. Bedouin settlements and new villages lie off the route, in the all-embracing desert, but some of the most noticeable indications of them are large signboards proclaiming a local clinic. I saw at least three of them along this route and they may have been others. They stand as something more than a guide to those in need of medical aid: landmarks of progress.

The United Arab Emirates differ from other Gulf countries in one important way: they are a federation and not a single state. Therefore, much of their administrative work has two levels of operation—through the federal Government and also through that of the individual emirate. This is true of their health services, but the overall planning is conceived and carried out by the UAE's central Ministry of Health based in Abu Dhabi, which is also responsible for some 75 per cent of the country's medical services. The other 25 per cent is made up by local provisions in each emirate, and in military health services.

Each primary school child, it is estimated, costs the Government about 10,300 dirhams a year, and by the time students are in some branches of specialized secondary education—for example, agriculture—the cost to the state may be six times that amount.

In the private sector there are 56 private schools in four of the states: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah and Ras Al Khaimah. About a quarter of these are for Arabs, and the rest for expatriates children of various nationalities: British (who have the largest number of schools), Indian, Pakistani, American, French, Norwegian, Dutch and German.

Penelope Turing

life. Rulers and administrators in the UAE are clearly aware of the dangers as well as the blessings of affluence, and in matters of health they wisely recognize that their people should have every possible facility and service. Even that is not as simple as it sounds. People take time to use and trust services which are new to them.

First, the whole medical service in all its facets is free for everyone, including expatriates, and this covers treatment for patients referred to foreign hospitals for specialist attention not yet available in the UAE.

In 1979 the ministry's hospitals spread throughout the main towns of the federation had a total of about 2,500 beds, a capacity which is hoped to double in the next five years. Two special chest hospitals are in operation and one for maternity cases—the handsome 110-bed Corniche Hospital in Abu Dhabi which has been open a little less than three years.

Five more hospitals, general and specialist, were under construction and some are now in use. When the first one is completed they will add another 1,700 beds to the total.

But while hospitals are, and will increasingly become, centres for treatment and advanced surgery, the preventive side of medicine rests with local clinics. Where there has been no family doctor tradition it is by personal contact through these smaller units that the patients' and families' trust is established, and basic health education and hygiene can be taught.

Both these factors have a bearing on the medical administration. Most of the population is grouped in the cities but there is a sparse, widely scattered number of indigenous people to be cared for in the rural areas for whom no real medical organization existed before the establishment of the federation's health ministry after independence in 1971. Among workers, including the large numbers from the Indian subcontinent, bring their own bazaars of infectious disease and their own needs for care.

Oil wealth is the elixir which has enabled these countries to develop a new tuberculosis unit and a spe-

cial centre for work on the Dhabi and a new eradication of malaria.

The school medical service is also an important part of the whole scheme. Like the local health centres this is regarded as a vital part of personal contact and the establishing of trust. Under this scheme there is a trained nurse in every school, while one doctor serves three to four schools.

Inevitably, not all existing services are operational. There is a long way to go to a comprehensive service on which talk held between UAE and British medical officials.

But the work goes on. More and clinics are planned, been mentioned as a campaign to track sources of illness, decided to recheck communicable diseases, grant workers, etc.

Expenditure reflects expansion. The Mini Health's current announced last September 323m dirhams, 1972 funds for standbys. An additional dirhams was approved November. In 1972 the figure was 8.3m dirhams.

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PROVIDING MARINE TRANSPORTATION TO THE OFFSHORE OIL INDUSTRY WORLDWIDE

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1979

	31.12.1979	31.12.1978	31.12.1979	31.12.1978
	Dh '000	Dh '000	Dh '000	Dh '000
Share Capital Authorised				
—Ordinary shares of Dhs 100 each	150,000	150,000		
Issues—ordinary shares of Dhs 100 each fully paid	54,000	54,000		
Proposed Bonus shares issue	108,000	—		
Reserves	34,000	100,000		
Profit & Loss Account	530	529		
Shareholders Funds	196,530	154,529		
Liabilities				
Current and deposit accounts maturing within one year, including reserve for contingencies	2,374,695	1,986,075		
Long Term accounts maturing after one year	189,706	252,091		
Creditors, accruals and proposed dividend	47,963	36,226		
Confirmed credits, acceptances and guarantees on behalf of customers	2,808,894	2,428,921		
	888,608	766,336		
	3,697,502	3,195,257		
			(US\$1=Dh 3.768)	
			888,608	3,195,257

Established in 1967 with a paid up capital of Dh 6.75 million, the Bank of Oman has in 12 years become the UAE's fastest growing bank. With 21 branches in the UAE and 7 overseas branches in Qatar, Egypt, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the U.K. Two more branches are scheduled for opening shortly in Alexandria (Egypt) and Khartoum (Sudan).



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Communications

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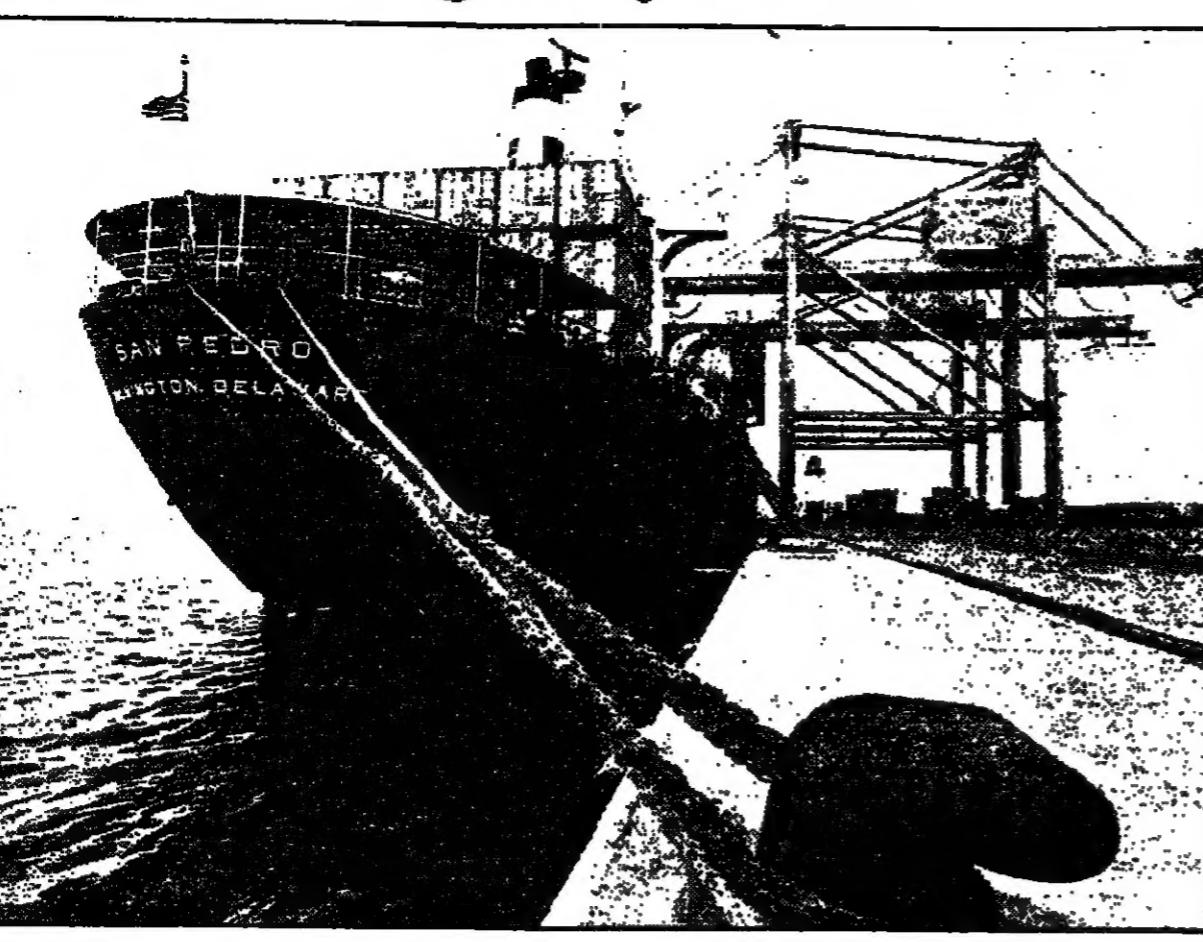
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AE's

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ST DECEMBER



A container ship at Jebel Ali port.

ports, and several new ones are being built.

Dubai has so far handled more than 60 per cent of the total value of imports entering the emirates through Abu Dhabi and Dubai, and most of this comes through Dubai's Port Rashid. It has a refrigerator terminal and a bonded refrigerator warehouse for frozen goods. Two years ago the agents for two big shipping lines also started their own bonded freezing in Dubai.

These and other develop-

ments reflect Dubai's aim to be a transit goods centre for cargoes coming in by sea for reexport by air or land.

This began with ship-

ping from the east bringing in cargoes which were then flown on to West Africa. The system has developed because the facilities are good and bureaucratic delays slight.

Dubai also acts as a crew change centre, which aids the town's cheaper hotels.

While Port Rashid con-

tinues to expand, the new port of Jebel Ali a little to the south-west along the coast has also come into operation. It was opened by Queen Elizabeth last year, and will be completed in 1981. It is designed for in-

ustrial work and large shipments for The Gulf.

Port Zayed at Abu Dhabi has increased its number of deepwater berths to 18 within the past three years.

Sharjah's port had the

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